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'MISSILIZATION' OF EUROPE, SOCIALIST STAND ON MBFR DISCUSSED

LD011621 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 9, 23 Feb 79 pp 8-9 LD

[Vi. Kuznetsov article: "The Pentagon, NATO and Euromissiles"]

[Text] U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown is "not particularly satisfied with Europe's contribution to NATO," even though he has succeeded, to use his words, in helping to "reanimate" the bloc's activities. Not that there is any great misfortune: If the carefree West Europeans do not think about their security, the solicitous Pentagon thinks for them.

At first it was suggested that the Atlantic partners acquire the neutron bomb from across the ocean. Now they are being tempted with Euromissiles with a nuclear charge.

One item in the U.S. military budget for fiscal 1980 calls for an expenditure to the tune of $350 million. This money will go to expedite the creation of new types of weapons for possible deployment in West Europe, particularly cruise missiles launched from the land and from the sea, Pershing missiles with increased range, and a medium-range ballistic missile. These weapons, it is declared, are to fill the "missile vacuum" or "missile breach" that has supposedly been created in NATO's "defense" system in Europe. And again we hear that the Pentagon intends merely to restore the equilibrium in nuclear potentials on European soil.

Even nonspecialists know that in the postwar years it was not in the USSR that the first atom bomb and the first neutron bomb appeared. But if you listen to those who justify and accelerate the arms race in the West, the following seems to be the case: All these years the Pentagon and NATO have only been engaged in "catching up" with the USSR and overcoming various "leeways" and "gaps." There was a "gap" in tanks. There was a "gap" in bombers. There was a "gap" in naval forces. In fact, on careful examination it always turned out that the United States or NATO in no way had less of particular types of arms than the USSR. "Gaps" existed (and still do exist, as we see) not in the levels of armed forces in East and West but in the imagination of those who find it advantageous to make a fuss by alleging that "the enemy is way out in front" and to whip up the arms race on this pretext.

The Pentagon and NATO have now "discovered" a new "gap"--in medium-range nuclear missile weapons. Here Moscow has "almost total superiority," Manfred Woerner, military expert of West Germany's opposition bloc comprising the Christian Democratic Union and the Christian Social Union, claims, his eyes wide with fear. The method to which this person resorts has long been approved by the Pentagon and NATO: When estimating others' forces they give free rein to unbridled fantasy, but when estimating their own they lapse into hopeless forgetfulness.

Since NATO has raised the subject of a nuclear missile breach, it will be necessary to refresh their memory, which is suffering lapses. The Pentagon keeps in West Eruope 7,000 nuclear warheads and 3,000 delivery vehicles. In the "European theater of war," as Atlantic staffs prefer to call Europe, the Pentagon's properties are represented in the form of Lance missiles (on which it is intended to mount neutron capsules) and Pershing missiles (a volley of 15 of these missiles with 400-kiloton warheads is equivalent to the explosive force of all the warheads used during World War II). A further 1,000 units of tactical nuclear weapons are onboard ships of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. To all this must be added the nuclear strike forces of Britain and France (France, let us recall, does not belong to the North Atlantic bloc's military organization, but its leadership, as was recorded at the NATO Council session in Ottawa in 1974, regards the French forces as a component of its defense system.)

And now they are trying to make out that all this nuclear might is little more than a fragile shell which can be smashed to smithereens by a volley of Soviet SS-20 missiles, as NATO calls them. And therefore, they say, this precarious situation should be rectified without delay.

Of course, Washington has not forgotten that a volunteer has not been found in NATO countries to click his heels and let himself be girded with a Pentagon neutron sword. Therefore, proposing a new "missile belt," the chiefs and propagandists of the U.S. military department are resorting to massive--albeit, perhaps, not so refined--camouflage of their nuclear initiative. They pass it off simultaneously as an ordinary procedure for "modernizing" NATO's missile potential, as a forced reply to the "Soviet challenge" and as countermeasures against the "Soviet missile threat."

But let us look at the modernization and the countermeasures in question. In fact, the Pentagon is now dissatisfied with the Pershing missile with a 750km range, which is said to be hopelessly obsolete and in need of renewal. Why? Because it cannot hit targets deep inside the Soviet Union. It is another matter if its range is increased to 1,800km. The creation and deployment of Pershing II on the continent--we cite the New York TIMES--"would mark a significant change in Western strategy, for the United States would for the first time be deploying weapons in Europe with the specific aim of attacking the Soviet Union."

What is this ordinary modernization? What is this reply? What are these countermeasures?

It is not modernization, but fundamental rearmament. Not a reply, but a challenge. A challenge leading to the exacerbation of confrontation and the intensification of the nuclear missile race. They are not defensive countermeasures, but something directly opposite.

Washington did not ask whether people could be found within NATO who are willing to have new missile systems deployed on their territory. They made the choice themselves on the other side of the ocean. And they launched a methodical offensive from two directions at once--from Brussels and Washington. On 7 February West Germany's DIE WELT very prominently published a report from NATO headquarters. "Soviet SS-20 missiles are aimed exclusively at targets in the FRG," the newspaper announced. Where did it get this information? "NATO learned of this in Brussels from American sources," the newspaper informs us. For those who do not really believe in the "Soviet threat," DIE WELT and the suppliers of its information prepared a streamlined [oblegchennyy] version. Moscow, they said, could also use the missiles for political purposes. It will take Bonn and isolate it from its NATO partners at any moment or start blackmailing it with these weapons....

And so, American sources are suggesting to their Bonn partners: You are being threatened, you must defend yourselves and we will help you. Just give us sites for missile installations, and there will be no hitch on our side. Alexander Haig, commander in chief of NATO forces in Europe, and David Aaron, deputy to Zbigniew Brzezinski, the U.S. President's national security assistant, visited the FRG at almost the same time. A. Haig declared that it is necessary to modernize nuclear weapons "for the strategy of deterrent at all levels." D. Aaron made no public statements on this score, but there was nothing secret about the purpose of his mission in Bonn even behind closed doors of the talks.

"The danger exists," WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE wrote in this connection, "that the FRG might be the only country for the deployment of new nuclear weapon systems with all the ensuing negative consequences." Is this realized in those circles which are faced with taking the decision? It seems so.

"Who, in fact, can be interested in having one more very dangerous hotbed of crisis arise here, in the center of Europe?"--this reasonable question was put by Herbert Wehner, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany's parliamentary faction. Only those who would like, with the help of the Pentagon's Euromissiles, to destroy the 10-year efforts to create European detente, as H.Wehner emphasized. He decisively rejected the idea that these missiles are needed to repulse the "Soviet threat." "Let them argue about it as much as they like, and let them judge it how they will," H. Wehner said, "but the Soviet Union has weapons for defense, not for aggression." Replying to a question in an interview in the newspaper WESTFAELISCHE RUNDSCHAU as to whether it is so essential for NATO deploy new weapons systems in West Europe "in the face of Soviet military superiority," FRG Defense Minister Hans Apel stated: "No, at present we are observing, on the whole, military equilibrium between East and West." Why, then, are the Pentagon's Euromissiles needed in that case? Is it not in order to upset this equilibrium and change the balance of forces in their favor?

Joinging in the stormy Euromissiles debate, FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, according to a DPA report, warned against attempts to impose on the FRG in one form or another the role of a vanguard in questions of nuclear strategy. The chancellor voiced this fear: "We could thereby undermine our reputation as a fighter for detente and our ability to continue promoting detente."

Far more than their reputation would be put at stake: The country's national security, the progress of detente in Europe, and the success of the disarmament talks.

While not wishing to assume the entire burden of responsibility, Bonn would appear to be not averse to sharing it with others. It is also said that "the NATO alliance imposes obligations which must be fulfilled." But neither version will rid Europe of missiles or the consequences of their deployment.

A third version is also being discussed: "Disarmament talks run parallel with preparations for NATO defense-political measures." To put it more simply: At the negotiating table we will discuss the question of Euromissiles while at the same time preparing to deploy them in West Europe. All postwar experience attests, however, to the fallaciousness of the method of doing things in parallel, particularly as the pace of the arms race is far greater than the pace of the talks on limiting and ending this race.

Given such approaches, it will hardly be possible to avoid the neutronization and missilization of Europe and to safeguard it against increased military confrontation. A different approach is needed here. What is needed is the optimum version, which would guarantee to deliver Europe from the emergence on its land of new, still more destructive and lethal types and systems of weapons.

Taking into account the fact that the preparation of the SALT-2 agreement is drawing to a close, the Soviet Union is already looking ahead and thinking of insuring a smooth transition to SALT 3 and to the conclusion of new agreements to reduce strategic arms. Other nuclear powers must also be involved in this process. This is the common position and common proposal of the Warsaw Pact states.

Attaching special significance to questions of military detente and disarmament in Europe, the USSR and its socialist allies have proclaimed their readiness to hold talks on all aspects of the problem of ending the arms race, including those aspects on which talks are not yet being held.

The socialist states' position on questions of military detente is clear, unambiguous and radical in the best sense of the word. There is no type of arms that they are not prepared to limit or reduce; but, of course, on the basis of strict observance of the principle of not prejudicing the security of either side.

While proposing far-reaching measures to limit and end the arms race, at the same time the socialist countries are prepared to examine most attentively the proposals of other states.

What position will NATO and the West in general take in reply to the Warsaw Pact states' constructive proposals? A great deal depends on this.

MARSHALL SHULMAN SPEAKS ON PREVENTING FURTHER ARMS RACE

LD020806 Moscow TASS in English 0714 GMT 2 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington, March 2, TASS--Marshall Shulman, adviser to the U.S. secretary of state, has declared for practical measures to be taken to prevent a further arms race.

Speaking at a conference on problems of Soviet-American relations, he strongly criticised those politicians in the United States who advocate a contained uncontrolled build-up of armaments, and emphasized the senselessness of such steps. Both the Soviet Union and the United States now have such huge nuclear potentials that their further buildup will represent a great danger to peace, M. Shulman said. A new twist in the arms spiral, in his opinion, will not strengthen U.S. security, but will even weaken it. Therefore, to ensure stability on the planet and to guarantee security, Mr. Shulman stressed, it is necessary to follow the path of negotiations on limitation of strategic offensive armaments, which now hold an important place in Soviet-American relations.

REGULAR MEETING OF SOVIET, U.S. SALT DELEGATIONS REPORTED

LD281232 Moscow TASS in English 1209 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 28, TASS--The delegations of the USSR and the United States to the Soviet-American negotiations on limitation of strategic offensive armaments had another meeting here today.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS TEST BAN MEETING HELD

LD281450 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 28, TASS--The delegations of the USSR, the USA, and Britain at the current talks here aimed at drafting a treaty on total ban on nuclear weapons' tests had a meeting today.

U.S., USSR RESUME GENEVA TALKS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS BAN

LD211232 Moscow TASS in English 1022 GMT 21 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 21, TASS--Bilateral negotiations between delegations of the Soviet Union and the United States were resumed today in Geneva with a view to drawing up an agreement on complete, effective and controlled prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons, and also with a view to destroying the existing chemical arms.

The present meeting is the ninth in the series started in August 1976. The sides are considering questions linked with tabling [proposing] a joint initiative in the Disarmament Committee.

SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON VIETNAM LACKS RESULTS

LD011442 Moscow TASS in English 1415 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] New York, March 1, TASS--TASS correspondent Valentin Vasilets reports:

The U.N. Security Council discussed for five days the situation in Southeast Asia in connection with the Chinese aggression against Vietnam. Reflected in the discussion was the concern for the fate of peace and profound indignation of peoples at the perfidious action of the Beijing rulers who unleashed a war against heroic Vietnam. At Security Council's sessions it was noted that Beijing's actions create a grave threat to peace and international security not only in Southeast Asia but also in the whole world.

Representatives of the USSR, Czechoslovakia, GDR, Hungary, Bulgaria, the Mongolian People's Republic, Poland, Cuba, Laos, Angola, India resolutely demanded an immediate end to Beijing's aggression against the sovereign state and the withdrawal of the Chinese troops from the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. This is the way, they stressed, to prevent the threat of a further aggravation of the international situation.

Representatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have reaffirmed their solidarity with the fighting Vietnamese people and expressed full confidence in its inevitable victory over the aggressor.

As was noted in the course of the discussion, the actions of Beijing which took upon itself the role of international gendarme, having insolently motivated its invasion of Vietnam as the intention "to teach" it a lesson for the policy, which is not to the liking of the Beijing rulers, are a gross and impudent violation of the U.N. Charter, of the elementary principles of international law.

Awkwardly trying to justify the undisguised aggression, China's delegation hurled monstrous slander on Vietnam, advancing against it fantastic accusations of the intention... to attack the People's Republic of China. Beijing representatives were not at all confused by the fact that hundreds of thousands of Chinese troops are trampling down these days the Vietnamese land, burning down villages and crops, plundering and killing civilians.

The discussion has shown that some people in the West took the path of justifying and even actually encouraging the Beijing hegemonists. At the Security Council this found reflection in attempts to entangle the clear question of Chinese troops' intrusion into the Socialist Republic of Vietnam with invented arguments, having nothing to do with the matter. Thus, the U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations Andrew Young made a statement which was aimed at drawing the sign of equality between the undisguised Chinese aggression against Vietnam and the situation in Kampuchea, the people of which overthrew the bloody Pol Pot regime and started reviving the country. Yugoslavia's representative also actually took a similar stand. His obvious concern was not so much at the fact of aggression but rather lest the aggressor, who comes under mounting blows of defenders of the motherland, should "lose face".

As a result of manoeuvres of Western countries and those who were led by them, the U.N. Security Council has been unable to elaborate a resolution that would unambiguously denounce the aggressor and promote restoration of peace in Southeast Asia. By the proposal of the Security Council's president, the discussion of the matter has been interrupted.

I. ALEKSANDROV PRAVDA ARTICLE ELICITS REACTION IN U.S.

LD012208 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Report from New York--The article "Beijing's Aggression Must Be Resolutely Rebuffed" has elicited a broad reaction in the United States. Speaking at a press conference, an official State Department spokesman has stated that the article is being studied attentively by the U.S. Government.

The PRAVDA article, UPI stresses, condemns the ambiguous stand taken by the U.S. ruling circles in the face of overt threats by the Chinese leadership directed at Vietnam, and points out that such a stand in essence has contributed to Beijing openly resorting to war.

WASHINGTON KNEW OF PRC PLANS TO 'PUNISH' VIETNAM

LD011325 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 25 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[Nikolay Polyanov article: "The Hidden Motives Behind Beijing's Adventure"]

[Excerpts] If you believe Deng Xiaoping, vice premier of the PRC State Council, the Chinese aggression against Vietnam is of purely "local" significance: It allegedly is an attempt to teach the southern neighbor a "bloody lesson," a kind of "punitive expedition" against it. The Beijing leaders have set themselves the goal of "punishing" Vietnam, which is implementing an independent policy and has become a serious obstacle to the implementation of their hegemonist designs. They are unwilling to reconcile themselves to the Kampuchean people's victory over Pol Pot's butcher regime. They are irritated that a free Kampuchea has established friendly relations with neighboring Vietnam.

The supporters of Pol Pot were allotted a special role: They were intended to turn Kampuchea into a Chinese bridgehead in Vietnam's rear, to help the Beijing leaders implement their aggressive plans with respect to the southern neighbor. On closer examination it becomes clear that Beijing's brigandage on Vietnam's northern borders is not only programed as a tactical operation, but is part of a long chain of aggressive provocations with far-reaching goals in time and space.

It is curious that even in the United States realistically minded observers are not making do with hypocritical expressions of "regret" about Beijing's incursion into Vietnam but admit that it is a link in a long-planned policy of aggression directed against extensive regions of Asia and the Pacific. New York's PEOPLE'S HERALD writes that the Chinese leadership "stops at nothing to establish its domination, and not only in Southeast Asia."

One wonders: What is Washington's true rule in these adventurist designs? Surely people on the Potomac can see that Deng Xiaoping's senseless appeals for the creation of an anti-Soviet alliance consisting of the United States, China, Japan and Western Europe are intended not least for the purpose of playing the American, Japanese and West European "cards" in Beijing's interests? Are the Western capitals and Tokyo well aware of the danger of China's game, and do they realize the dangers it is fraught with?

New York's NEWSDAY newspaper, in answer to this question, comes to the conclusion that "of course, the Carter administration was not taken unawares by what the Chinese did." "The government," the newspaper continues, "was not only able to follow the buildup of PRC Armed Forces on the border attentively through its intelligence satellites, but also leading observers stated that such an attack was in complete accordance with China's present foreign policy."

Washington did "follow attentively" and, of course, recognized its own "handwriting" in the bellicose actions undertaken by the Beijing militarists. Attention was drawn to this by Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister Nguyen Ko Thalh, who explained at a Hanoi press conference that the pretext of the so-called "punishment of Vietnam" was borrowed from American arsenals. "China learned this," he observed, "from the United States. The United States once provoked an incident in the Gulf of Tonkin to have a pretext for unleashing war against North Vietnam."

These and other features of present events in Southeast Asia cannot fail to cause concern. On the one hand, they confirm that the hidden motives behind Beijing's adventure are known to Washington. On the other hand, they repeatedly recall the risky nature of the course the aggressors have embarked on.

The Beijing leaders assert that they want to "teach someone a lesson." Let the outcome of the American armed expedition into Southeast Asia, which ended in complete failure for the interventionists, be a lesson for them.

COMMENTARY SCORES CARTER REMARKS ON PRC INVASION OF SRV

LD011408 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] As people in all parts of the world launch mounting protests against the Chinese aggression in Vietnam, the mass media in the United States is trying to convince the public that the visit of the treasury secretary to Beijing is practically a peace-making mission. Reports from Beijing say Michael Blumenthal expressed concern over the situation on the Chinese-Vietnamese border and conveyed to Deng Xiaoping a message from President Carter, the contents of which have not been disclosed.

One can only guess what the United States President had to say to the Beijing leaders on this occasion. But the President has made some significant remarks at his latest White House press conference. He said the American side expressed disapproval of the crossing of the Vietnamese border by the Chinese. He said Washington also expressed its displeasure to the Russians and the Vietnamese over the crossing of the Cambodian border by the Vietnamese. Thus the President makes it clear that Washington does not intend to condemn the Chinese attack on Vietnam. In the American view, China has not committed aggression but has just crossed the border of Vietnam. As for the American displeasure with Vietnam, it simply represents an attempt to link the Chinese aggression with internal developments in Kampuchea and to put on the same scales the aggressor and the victim of aggression. This view of events is intended to prove that Beijing was forced to act the way it did and is justified in its actions. One cannot help thinking that this American stand in the situation, and also the visit of the treasury secretary to Beijing, looks like United States encouragement of the Chinese aggression. The pleadings made by high-ranking American officials in Beijing betray American attempts to play down an impression which has been created among the world public and the leaders of different countries, that there is a direct link between the Chinese aggression and the Washington visit of Deng Xiaoping.

The Indian prime minister, Morarji Desai, has said that one should call a spade a spade, and that the Chinese actions under the present circumstances can only be described as aggression. China is conducting a full-scale war against Vietnam, and not just some limited operation, as claimed by Beijing officials during their meetings with Michael Blumenthal. The French L'HUMANITE says the scale of the fighting is reminiscent of the American aggression against Vietnam.

Thus it should be clear to everyone that the Chinese actions against Vietnam are a practical expression of the great-power and hegemonistic policy of China.

PRAVDA ATTACKS BROWN, SCHLESINGER MIDDLE EAST STATEMENTS

LD020909 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[Pavel Demchenko commentary: "Dangerous Designs"]

[Text] U.S. Defense Secretary Brown and Energy Secretary Schlesinger as though in collusion have spoken at the same time on television. Judging by everything, it was no accident that their television appearances coincided, not only in time, but also in their tone and content. Both officials touched on the present situation in the Persian Gulf area which, as is known, is one of the chief areas of oil supplies of the capitalist world. And both of them expounded in such an unconditional way on the need to send U.S. Armed Forces to that area, as if the security of the United States itself were suddenly threatened. "We have a vital interest in maintaining unhindered oil supplies from the Middle East," Brown said. "I have already said, and I repeat again, that to defend those vital interests we will take any sound measures, including the use of our military might." Schlesinger admitted that the question of sending U.S. forces is already being studied. Their presence is to include the stationing of military personnel, but whether the deployment of land forces is envisaged is another question.

It should be recalled that the U.S. defense secretary has just returned from a 10-day trip through the countries of the Middle East, where he discussed with leaders of a number of states the question of strenghening Washington's military position after the defeat suffered by imperialism as a result of the events in Iran. In particular, there was talk--as the foreign press noted--of Israel's assuming the role of policeman for the Persian Gulf while continuing as before to fulfill its functions as the chief imperialist base in the Middle East. Tel Aviv has once again recalled Begin's plan to turn Haifa into a base for the U.S. 6th Fleet.

There are definite calculations, too, with regard to Egypt. As the British DAILY TELEGRAPH wrote: Cairo put forward a proposal envisaging more frequent calls by ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet to Egyptian ports and more frequent patrolling of the Red Sea and Indian Ocean by U.S. ships. A wager is thus being placed on a number of countries in the Near East in order to defend imperialist interests. These latest statements by U.S. secretaries of state prove once again that the Pentagon is ready to go further in its interference in Middle East affairs. The danger of such designs, which can only lead to an aggravation and destabilization of the situation in that explosive part of the world, is evident. It is also evident that the utterances of Brown and Schlesinger go against the relaxation of international tension.

ADMINISTRATION MOVES TO OFFSET IRANIAN ARMS CANCELLATIONS

LD011910 Moscow TASS in English 0755 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington, March 1, TASS--The U.S. administration has submitted to the Congress a new version of the bill on additional allocations to the Pentagon for the fiscal year of 1979 amounting to 2,160 million dollars. It differs from the previous version mainly in that the new bill has the purpose of "helping out" the U.S. military-industrial concerns, which may lose large profits due to Iran's cancellation of orders for arms deliveries. The bill, specifically, provides for a permission to the U.S. Department of Defence to purchase a part of the weapons which were intended for the shah regime in Iran.

The new government of Iran, as pointed out by the WALL STREET JOURNAL, cancelled orders for American arms running into about 7,000 million dollars, whereas the orders of the shah government placed with American military-industrial concerns amounted to 11,600 million dollars. At the present time the Pentagon is urgently seeking new buyers of these weapons. Egypt and Israel display much interest in deliveries of American F-16 warplanes.

U.S. ANNOUNCES RECORD FOREIGN TRADE BALANCE DEFICIT

LD011628 Moscow TASS in English 1222 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington, March 1, TASS--The deficit in the foreign trade balance of the United States sharply increased in January to attain the figure of 3,100 million dollars, the U.S. Department of Commerce announced on Wednesday. This was a record for the last eleven months. The Department of Commerce mentions as main reasons for this increase bigger expenditures on the importation of oil, motor cars and other manufactured goods. At the same time, the export of American farm produce declined from 1,400 million dollars in December, 1978, to 940 million dollars in January this year.

The increase in the deficit of the foreign trade balance leads to a further growth of inflation in the country and unfavourably affects the position of the American dollar in international currency markets.

U.S. EMBASSY IN BEIJING OPENED IN LOW-KEY CEREMONY

LD011502 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The American flag was hoisted today over the United States Embassy in Beijing. The flag-raising ceremony, which was deliberately low key, was attended by the embassy staff and United States treasury secretary, Michael Blumenthal. The ambassador, Leonard Woodcock, was absent from the formality. The clearly low profile spirit of the event is attributed by observers to Blumenthal's presence in Beijing. The visit by a top-ranking American official signifies in itself that the United States administration does not regard the Chinese incursion into Vietnam as an obstacle to Sino-American relations.

SHALYGIN ON PRC'S AGGRESSION AGAINST VITENAM, WEST'S STAND

LD011940 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Reports from Vietnam speak of bitter fighting in the northern provinces of the republic between Vietnamese troops and the invading China forces. The total strength of Chinese troops taking part in the invasion is now placed at 25 divisions. This is more than the total number of the U.S. ground forces at the peak of the U.S. military intervention in Indochina. The Chinese are now pushing toward Lang Son, a strategic city in the country's northeast. Radio Hanoi says Vietnamese Army units stationed in this sector of the front have smashed three mechanized Chinese columns. The aggressor's troops are also said to be suffering heavy losses in men and equipment in other sectors. The total Chinese losses since the start of the aggression on 17 February are estimated to be at about 20,000 officers and men. Our political observer Yuriy Shalygin says the scale, the nature and the goal of the Chinese military adventure constitute a threat to all Southeast Asia.

The Beijing leaders are expanding their criminal aggression and there is a threat of it developing into a major conflict. Reports over the past few days spoke of mounting tension on China's border with Laos and about Chinese troops concentrating along the border. Chinese agents operating in Laos have stepped up their activities in a bid to cause public disorder. Beijing ignores the neutrality of Thailand which was officially proclaimed by its government and is trying to use Thailand's territory for arms supplies to the few remaining armed gangs supporting the former Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea.

The Maoists still cannot reconcile themselves to the downfall of their stooges in Kampuchea who pursued a policy of genocide against the people. Two years ago the Chinese used the territory of Kampuchea for military operations against the southern regions of Vietnam. The Beijing leaders regard Kampuchea as a staging ground for their military provocations against other countries of Southeast Asia.

All these facts should now be recalled especially since certain political leaders and their press seem to have a lapse of memory about this recent period. This lapse of memory is by no mere chance. It is linked with attempts made in certain quarters in the West, the United States and also in Asia, to avoid giving a clear definition of the actions made by China. These actions of China can only be described as aggression and this description fully fits the definition of aggression as adopted by the UN General Assembly.

At his recent White House press conference President Carter chose to describe the actions of Beijing as just the crossing of the Vietnamese border.

The President also said there is no disharmony in American relations with Beijing. U.S. officials tend to describe the actions of Beijing as China's retaliation for the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia. The Americans keep telling their allies that they should take the same view of the situation and stick to this view on all formal occasions, including the Security Council debate. Thus the imperialist quarters are clearly trying to encourage Beijing and to mislead the world public opinion.

An editorial in the leading Hanoi newspaper NHAN DAN points out that these Western quarters are trying to absolve the Chinese aggressors of the responsibility for their crimes and are slandering Vietnam for its aid to Kampuchea. This view of the situation is supported by the press in many countries. The papers note the fact that China's Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping gave his full approval of abstract calls for the withdrawal of foreign troops made in the Security Council discussions.

Instead of calling for an outright condemnation of the Chinese aggression, people who made such calls just lump together the aggressor and the victim of aggression. It is easy to see that definitions of this kind suit the Beijing leaders perfectly well and encourage them to continue their adventurous policies. By launching their actions against Vietnam the Maoists have put to practical test their aggressive and hegemonistic policies. The aggressor must not be left unpunished. It is in the best interest of all peoples of Southeast Asia and the world at large to discourage the Maoist adventurers from laying their hands on foreign territories and from ignoring the rights of other nations.

USSR'S UNESCO COMMISSION DEMANDS CHINESE TROOP WITHDRAWAL

LD020052 Moscow TASS in English 2139 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 1, TASS--The USSR's UNESCO commission called on the UNESCO director-general and the national UNESCO commissions of all the member-states, on all who cherish the ideals of peace to condemn the monstrous crimes by the Beijing clique, for there can be no room for indifference or silence when international norms are being trampled underfoot, and the charters and resolutions of the UNO and the UNESCO are being flagrantly violated.

Fully supporting the Soviet Government's statement, the USSR's UNESCO commission is stigmatising the criminal actions of Beijing and is demanding immediate withdrawal of all Chinese troops from Vietnam's territory.

Quite recently, the commission's statement says, the 20th session of the UNESCO general conference, along with resolutions calling for strengthening peace, international cooperation and goodneighbourly relations, adopted a special resolution on rendering assistance to Vietnam and stated its readiness to help the Vietnamese people in the cause of rehabilitation of the country.

At present time has come to show by deeds the fidelity to the adopted resolution, and to show solidarity with Vietnam and resolutely condemn the criminal hegemonistic policy of the rulers of China that are bringing death and destruction to the peace-loving country and its people.

PRC COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA GROWING

LD281736 Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] London, February 28, TASS--Contacts between the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa and the Beijing clique grow wider.

Firm trade contacts have been established between them, according to a report of the Johannesburg newspaper FINANCIAL MAIL. More and more Chinese goods appear on sale in the shops of Johannesburg, Capetown, and Port Elizabeth. For its part, China purchases cotton, wool, copper, tin, and other raw materials in South Africa.

Concrete data on this trade are thoroughly concealed by both the South Africa racists and Beijing pseudorevolutionaries. It is clear, however, that the two sides intend to boost the trade still more. This is confirmed, in particular, by South African businessmen's ever frequent visits to the Chinese capital.

By strengthening the criminal regime of apartheid economically, Beijing also acts as a political ally of imperialist powers which in every way support the stronghold of racism and reaction in Africa's south. As admitted by Johannesburg Radio, China lately (?almost) unreservedly supports any actions of the West in Africa and becomes as if its unofficial ally. This was convincingly evidenced by the events in Angola and Ethiopia where the Maoists openly sided with the counterrevolutionary separatist groupings.

With Beijing's active assistance bands of UNITA cutthroats that found refuge in the Republic of South Africa and are equippped with Chinese arms are increasingly often used for the suppression of the liberation struggle of the people of Namibia and for the continuation of the illegal occupation of its territory. The bandits also get assistance from Beijing's military advisers and instructors.

The desire of the Chinese leadership to establish close relations with the USA led to the PRC's open renunciation of the support for the national-liberation movement of Africa's south. The foreign policy goals of the USA and China in the region coincide to such an extent that Washington recently considered it possible to request Beijing to influence appropriately the patriots of Zimbabwe and the African "frontline" states supporting them.

The Maoists' contacts with the reactionary racist regime of Africa's south indicate once again what is the true visage of the "true friend of African peoples" as Beijing boastfully designates itself. The countries of the continent come to see for themselves on the strength of concrete facts that the Chinese leadership is allying with international imperialism and reaction in preserving colonialism and racism in the African Continent's south.

PRAVDA SEES 'GREAT-HAN CHAUVINISM' EXTENDING TO PRC MINORITIES

LD011433 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 79 p 4 LD

[Article by M. Sladkovskiy, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and candidate of historical sciences T. Rakhimov: "Great Chinese Chauvinism in Action"]

[Text] China's criminal and perfidious incursion into the Socialist Republic of Vietnam evokes a sense of profound indignation in all honest and peace-loving people on earth. This shameless act of aggression demonstrates once again to the international public the true nature of the Beijing hegemonists' expatiations about their "defense" of the freedom and independence of small states. At the same time the Beijing rulers' arrogation of the "right" to teach other peoples "lessons" is connected in the most direct way with the chauvinist course of Beijing's policy vis-a-vis the many non-Chinese peoples inside the country.

China is one of the world's major multinational states. In addition to the Chinese, more than 50 million people of other nationalities live there in areas totaling 60 percent of the country's territory. They include Uighurs, Mongols, Tibetans and other peoples who have created their own distinctive culture and who sued to possess their own statehood.

For many centuries they were subjected to the most brutal national oppression and were plundered by Chinese officials, merchants and moneylenders. The best land was seized by the Chinese while the indigenous inhabitants were pushed back into mountains or barren pastures. Justifying the forcible assimilation of the non-Chinese peoples, Chiang Kai-shek put forward the theory of the "united Chinese nation" according to which these peoples are merely "branches" of the Chinese.

A people's revolution triumphed in China in 1949 and the PRC was created. Small peoples hoped that the establishment of people's power would bring them liberation from national oppression and would create the conditions for unimpeded economic and cultural development. They hoped that the CCP would implement a national program providing for the elimination of national oppression and the granting of equal rights to all nationalities, including the right to self-determination.

Indeed, much was done during the first years of the PRC's existence. Autonomous regions, districts and counties were formed. Social transformations were implemented in the national regions, plants and factories began to be constructed, working people's living standards rose and schools and hospitals opened.

The Eighth CCP Congress held in 1956 put forward a broad program for further developing the national regions. But this program was never implemented. Soon after the eighth congress Mao Zedong succeeded in imposing on the party and the country his own "special course," of which a component part was overt great-power chauvinism.

The non-Chinese peoples were deprived of the right to self-determination. A system of "regional national autonomy" was to a considerable extent implemented by methods which by no means testified to a desire on the part of the Beijing leaders to grant the non-Chinese peoples genuine equality of rights. Thus, for instance, as a result of the demarcation of national territories more than 50 percent of all Tibetans living in the PRC found themselves outside the Tibetan Autonomous Region in neighboring provinces--Sichuan, Quinghai, Gansu and Yunnan.

In 1957-58 mass repressions began against national cadres who were accused of "local nationalism" but who had actually demanded the implementation of the eighth party congress decisions. Chinese cadre personnel became the effective masters of the situation in the national regions. The autonomy of the non-Chinese peoples became increasingly nominal.

During the "Great Leap Forward" the Maoists began to extensively propagandize the idea of the accelerated "merging of the nationalities," With the aim of forcibly assimilating the other peoples they organized the mass resettlement of Chinese in the national regions. The Chinese population in Xingiang Eughur Autonomous Region rose from 40 to 60 percent of the total population in a few years.

The total disregard for the particular national features of other peoples, the virtual elimination of autonomy, the massive influx of Chinese migrants, the creation of military production settlements, the economic dislocation resulting from the failure of the "Great Leap Forward" and the fall in living standards caused sharp discontent among the indigenous population--something which forced the Maoists to backtrack for a time and to switch to a policy of so-called settling down.

At a CCP Central Committee conference on the nationalities question in 1967 Politburo member Peng Zhen, who later became a victim of the "Cultural Revolution," declared: "We have violated the course, policy and directions of the party and state on the questions of the rights to national autonomy, finance and policy, on the questions of freedom of religion, of preserving or transforming national customs and of the use of national languages and on other questions."

The conference also noted that "forcible methods have failed to prove their value" and that "great-Han nationalism, which is continuing to grow, has been dominant in the relations between different nationalities in the last few years."

However, Mao Zedong did not renounce his great-power, chauvinistic plans. His unleashing of the "Cultural Revolution" is graphic evidence of this. All constitutional organs of self-government were disbanded. They were replaced by revolutionary committees consisting predominantly of Chinese soldiers. A new wave of mass repression swept across the national regions. The victims at public and secret trials were many thousands of national cadre workers, representatives of the intelligentsia and ordinary working people accused of being "class enemies," "reactionaries" and "counterrevolutionaries." On the pretext of combatting the "four-old elements" (old ideas, culture, customs and habits) the Maoists effectively outlawed the entire national culture of the minority peoples.

One of the most characteristic instances of Maoist tyranny was the unprecedented partition of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. In 1969-1970 the region (it was formed back in 1947) was reduced by more than two-thirds in order to reduce the already small percentage of Mongols in the autonomous region while retaining within the confines of the region areas densely populated by Chinese. As a result Mongols accounted for less than 5 percent (around 300,000 people) of the autonomous region's population, and the detached area with its Mongol population (there are around 2 million Mongols living in the PRC) was incorporated in neighboring provinces.

During this period the Maoists once again put forward the "idea" that "the nationalities question no longer exists" in China and that other nationalities had already "merged" with the Chinese.

Following Mao Zedong's death and the elimination of the "gang of four," the Chinese leadership placed the responsibility for the Chinese authorities' blatantly chauvinistic actions in national regions on the shoulders of Lin Biao and the "four," who had allegedly "violated" Mao's line on the nationalities question. In the meantime it continued to comprehensively uphold the principles of "Chairman Mao's nationalities policy."

The main reason for Beijing's maneuvering in this sphere was the growth of tension in PRC national regions as a result of the "Cultural Revolution." The new Chinese leadership chose more flexible and cautious tactics in its approach to the country's other nationalities. Beijing propaganda alleges that the CCP leadership's nationalities policy is currently fully in keeping with the interests and aspirations of the non-Chinese peoples. The facts show, however, that Beijing's nationalities policy is a direct continuation of Mao Zedong's course, that is, it retains its great-Han, chauvinistic character and aims at forcibly assimilating the non-Chinese peoples.

The Chinese leadership says that "the training of national cadres is a key element in the solution of the nationalities question," but it follows from a RENMIN RIBAO article that it is in fact pursuing a policy of curbing the training and growth of national cadres and is making every effort to stress the need "to develop the very important role of Chinese cadre workers" and Chinese in general in national regions.

The use of representatives of non-Chinese peoples in leading posts in national regions' party and administrative organs is strictly limited. National cadres get only a certain number of secondary posts. Party committees and revolutionary committees in autonomous regions are headed by Chinese who, at the same time, head the respective military districts: Wang Feng in Xinjiang, Ren Rong in Tibet, Zhou Hui in Inner Mongolia, Qiao Xiaoguang in the Guangxi-Zhuang Autonomous Region and He Shilian in the Ningxia-Hui Autonomous Region.

The current Beijing leaders are effectively continuing the Maoist course which hinders the development of the national culture of non-Chinese peoples. The development of the national languages and orthography is artificially inhibited. At present the PRC publishes literature in the languages of effectively only five non-Chinese peoples (there are more than 50 on PRC territory), and that consists of translations of Mao Zedong's "Works," the "instructions" of present-day leaders and materials by Beijing propagandists.

In an attempt to establish a secure footing in national border regions the PRC leadership is continuing and expanding the mass migration of Chinese to these areas. The hypocritical justification for this colonization campaign is the need to give "assistance" to non-Chinese peoples "on a planned basis" in terms of "manpower." Special attention is devoted to the migration of Chinese to border areas such as Xinjiang, Inner Mongolia, Tibet and the Guangxi-Zhuang Autonomous Region. Characteristically the migrants are primarily demobilized soldiers who, as the Chinese press candidly states, are to "establish themselves in national regions."

While urging the country's non-Chinese peoples to "make their contribution" to the implementation of the "four modernizations," Beijing is subordinating their manpower and natural resources to the purposes of further militarization and, at the same time, deliberately inhibiting the comprehensive socioeconomic development of regions with dense non-Chinese populations.

The policy of the present-day Chinese leadership in the PRC's national border regions is exclusively military. Large troop contingents are deployed in these regions. In Tibet, for example, there are nearly 300,000 soldiers, whereas the total population of the region is only 1.7 million. There are more than 1 million people in militarized settlements in Xinjiang.

The national regions are covered with a network of strategic military highways and airfields. The building of shelters and underground depots and the deployment of nuclear missile installations in these regions are being stepped up. Beijing regards the border regions as a bridgehead for the implementation of hegemonistic aspirations in relation to neighboring countries. A convincing example of this is the construction of the Karakoram strategic highway from Xinjiang to Kashmir.

The Chinese authorities are forcing the indigenous population to participate in the construction of military projects. Virtually all able-bodied men and women are members of so-called "Peoples' Militia" detachments which, according to the Western press, form part of regular army units. The militarization of national regions and the need to maintain hundreds of thousands of Chinese soldiers have placed an extra burden on the shoulders of working people in the national regions.

The Chinese ruling clique is doing all it can to create the impression that its nationalities policy is an embodiment of "concern" for the needs and interests of the country's non-Chinese nationalities. Concrete facts over the last 20 years indicate the opposite. They indicate that in Mao's time and since his death Beijing's policy on the nationalities question has pursued great-Han, hegemonistic aims.

The crimes of the Chinese aggressors, sowing death and destruction on the sacred soil of the heroic Vietnamese people, demonstrates anew the dangerous nature of their great-power policy in their own national regions, which have been transformed not only into reservations for the enslavement of non-Chinese peoples but also into seats of aggression against neighboring states.

MASHEROV RECEIVES GDR FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER IN MINSK

LD012316 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1627 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Fischer, member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party and GDR foreign minister, arrived in Minsk from Moscow today. He was received by Masherov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party.

During a conversation which passed in a warm, friendly atmosphere the guest was acquainted with the work of the republic's party organization in implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the plans of the 10th 5-year plan, and with successes in the social and economic development of the Belorussian SSR.

TASS CITES ADN ON GDR YOUTH VOLUNTEERING TO AID VIETNAM

LD010724 Moscow TASS in English 0659 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Berlin, 28 February, TASS--The GDR news agency ADN reports:

China's war against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has called forth a tide of vehement protest also among the young generation of the German Democratic Republic, chiefly among the members of the youth organisation FDJ, the Solidarity Committee stated here today. Since the start of the aggression, many youths have been calling at the FDJ Central Council and the Solidarity Committee requesting to be sent to Vietnam as volunteers to support the Vietnamese people in their heroic struggle against the Chinese aggressors.

Solidarity Committee President Kurt Seibt has declared in this context that so far Vietnam had not addressed a relevant request for help to the GDR and sending of volunteers was not, therefore, necessary. "Let us hope that this will remain unnecessary also in the future," Kurt Seibt added.

PRAVDA CORRESPONDENTS REPORT ON VISIT TO BULGARIAN MACEDONIA

AU161330 [Editorial Report AU] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 12 February 1979 carries on page 7 a 2,100-word report by A. Krushinskiy and S. Tsukasov, PRAVDA special correspondents, from Blagoevgrad and Sofia. The report is entitled: "Where the River Struma Flows--a PRAVDA report on the Working People in the Pirin Area."

After beginning with a description of the beauties of the River Struma, as glorified by the Poet Ivan Vasov, the report goes on: "Today this Pirin area, or Bulgarian Macedonia as it is also called, evokes quite different ideas in our mind." The two Soviet journalists describe the ancient city of Melnik and the history of the area, stressing that it is the homeland of heroes, beginning with the legendary Greek Spartacus and recalling the names of various Bulgarian revolutionary heroes. The remainder of the report is entirely devoted to economic achievements in the area. There is no reference to Yugoslavia or to controversial Macedonian problems.

In closing the report, the two PRAVDA correspondents note the Pirin area's exceptional social and economic progress, adding: "The changes that have occurred in the Pirin area are often called an 'economic miracle.' If it is true to say that the rest of Bulgaria is developing rapidly then we can say that the rate of development in the Pirin area is even more rapid. The people's government adopted this policy line precisely because this was the most backward part of the country."

SAUDI ARABIA CANCELS MILITARY LEAVE DUE TO YEMEN'S CONFLICT

LD020704 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1315 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Yevgeniy Lukyanov]

[Excerpts] The U.S. State Department has officially announced a speeding up in the delivery of American weapons to North Yemen. After confirmation by Congress, the United States will send 12 F-15 fighters, 2 C-130 transport aircraft, 64 tanks, 100 armored personnel carriers and other arms, to a total value of $300 million.

It is also reported that the command of the Saudi Arabian Armed Forces has canceled all leave for servicemen in connection with these events and intends to recall its contingent from the Inter-Arab Peace Forces in Lebanon. It is believed that if the conflict worsens, Saudi Arabian forces could take part in military operations.

EFFORTS TO SETTLE PDRY-YAR CONFLICT REPORTED

LD020734 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1504 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Mar, TASS--M. Riyad, general secretary of the Arab League, has stated that an extraordinary session of the Arab League Council at the foreign minister level will take place on 4 March in the capital of Kuwait to examine the questions of the worsening of relations between the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] and the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR]. M. Riyad pointed to the need for settling, as he put it, "the border conflict" between the two Yemen states in the "calm atmosphere and on the basis of a reconciliation between the sides".

Arab political circles are emphasizing the need to prevent an escalation in the conflict and the need to peacefully settle relations between these countries.

Aden--A statement made by an official spokesman of the PDRY Minister of Foreign Affairs which is being circulated here states that, guided by the interests of peace and security in the area of the Arab Peninsula, the PDRY Government affirms its adherence to the Arab League Charter and expresses its determination to pursue a policy based on the principles of peaceful coexistance, noninterference on the internal affairs of other states and respect for the national sovereignty and independence of all countries.

The statement stresses that the Government of Democratic Yemen has constantly striven to avoid fraticidal war between the two Yemeni states and calls for an objective and constructive dialog between them as well as for the settlement of all differences by peaceful methods and means.

Beirut, 1 March--PDRY Communications Minister M. 'Ushaysh has arrived here as a special representative of the chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council. At a press conference here he expressed the readiness of Democratic Yemen to cooperate with the YAR and other states of the region on the basis of noninterference in each other's internal affairs and mutual respect.

Damascus, 1 March--The governments of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Iraqi Republic have received with alarm the reports about armed clashes on the border between the PDRY and the YAR, says a joint statement by the Syrian and Iraqi governments, issued here. Military operations between the two Yemeni states, notes the document, weaken the unity of the Arab nation and play into the hands of its enemies. They are taking place at a time when all the Arabs must close their ranks and firmly confront the increasing intrigues of imperialism and Zionism.

The governments of the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq are addressing the PDRY and YAR leaders calling on them to stop armed clashes forthwith and begin talks in order to eliminate existing divergences. The statement emphasizes that Syria and Iraq are expressing their readiness to participate in the settlement of this conflict.

London, 1 March--As REUTER has reported, representatives of Syria, Iraq and Jordan have arrived in the YAR from where they are subsequently to proceed to the PDRY. Their mission is designed to study the situation in the region and the causes of the conflict dividing the two countries.

IRANIAN ENVOY IN U.S. DEMANDS RECALL OF AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN

LD021038 Moscow TASS in English 1006 GMT 2 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington, March 2 TASS--Acting Iranian Ambassador in the United States Sh. Ruhani has demanded the return to the Iranian people of the riches plundered by the shah. Speaking at a press conference in Washington, he said that the shah's deposits in the United States alone are estimated from 15,000 million to 23,000 million dollars. The shah transferred abroad a total of more than 50,000 million dollars, stolen from the Iranian people, Sh. Ruhani said.

Touching upon relations with the United States, Sh. Ruhani urged the American Government to recall from Iran the U.S. Ambassador W. Sullivan known by his close links with the shah. If Sullivan remains in his post, he stressed, it will be an insult to all Iranians.

The new Government of Iran, Sh. Ruhani said, shall not allow the use of the country's territory for establishing foreign military bases and espionage centers.

BEGIN TRIP TO ATTEMPT 'TO SALVE' CARTER'S PRESTIGE

Soltan Report

LD011512 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Israeli Prime Minister Begin arrives in Washington today at President Carter's invitation for frank discussions on the Near East. Our correspondent, Yuriy Soltan, reports:

Begin's visit to Washington was arranged literally a few hours after he had announced he would not take part in the new tripartite American-Israeli-Egyptian summit planned by the United States. No significant results are expected here from Begin's meeting with Carter. The Israeli prime minister's trip is being referred to in Washington as a mission to salve the prestige of President Carter, whose Near East policy--centering on a separate treaty between Cairo and Tel Aviv--has been shown to be wanting. The Washington administration is now paying for its departure from the formerly agreed principles for a settlement of the Near East problem by means of convening a Geneva conference whose cochairmen would be the Soviet Union and the United States and in which all the interested countries, together with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization, would take part.

But there is still reluctance here to abandon the separate deal. Washington considers that a military-political alliance between Israel and Egypt, particularly after the loss of Iran, is the best means of defending American interests, primarily oil, in the Near East. Bearing in mind this interest on the part of the United States, Israel is asking for higher payment for its agreement. Tel Aviv wants the conclusion of a treaty with Egypt on conditions which would ensure it supremacy in the Israeli-Egyptian alliance and would retain for it the possibility of continuing the occupation of Arab lands.

Tel Aviv, which each year gets now 2 billion of military and economic aid from the United States, is insisting on an increase of American supplies of the most up-to-date weapons.

These questions then, which have nothing whatever to do with the problem of a peaceful settlement in the Near East, are going to be discussed during Begin's closed meeting with Carter.

Commentary on Visit

LD020058 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Behind the Scenes of Beijing's Talks in Washington"]

[Text] News agencies are paying much attention to the visit of Israeli Prime Minister Begin to the United States, which is to begin today at the invitation of President Carter. The U.S. President extended the invitation after the Israeli Government decided to reject Israel's participation in the tripartite summit meeting. Everything points to the fact that this urgent overseas visit by the Israeli prime minister is the result of Washington's effort to reach a speedy drafting of the separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

President Carter himself said at a press conference at the White House that despite all U.S. efforts, attempts to complete the Egyptian-Israeli deal reached a deadlock. But President Carter is still insisting on concluding the separate treaty.

Many observers hold the view that the U.S. administration has decided to abandon looking for any cover for this separate deal and to work for drafting it despite the firm opposition of the overwhelming majority of the Arab countries and the Palestinians. It seems that Begin will be informed that U.S. interests demand this in any form.

In the light of the changes in Iran, officials and major newspapers overseas are now talking about only what they term as protecting vital U.S. interests in the Middle East and the Arabian Gulf region; about the possibilities of setting up U.S. military bases and about expanding the U.S. military presence in the region. The New York TIMES writes that the point in question is a military alliance whose foundation Israel and Egypt might form. At that same press conference President Carter himself pointed out that the Middle East countries must know that the United States has a special interest in them from the viewpoint of supplying oil and ways of transporting oil. But it is in vain that one should look in President Carter's statements and in statements by other officials for even a hint about resolving the radical issues of the Middle East settlement, namely, the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the occupied Arab territories, the fate of Arab Jerusalem and the rights of the Palestinians.

Everything has been shadowed by the interest in the deteriorating military, strategic, economic and political positions of U.S. imperialism in the region. Israel once more has the chance to demonstrate that it has been and continues to be the main fortress of imperialism in the Middle East.

As for As-Sadat's regime, it seems that this regime's latest flattery of the United States and its readiness to perform the role of policeman to protect U.S. interests are sufficient to consider Egypt an appropriate partner not only for the United States but also for Israel.

TASS ON 'ELECTION FARCE' IN RHODESIA, WEST'S APPROVAL

LD011838 Moscow TASS in English 1255 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Lusaka, March 1, TASS--The ringleader of Rhodesian racists, Smith, has signed a document on dissolution of "Parliament." That was yet another act in Salisbury's political farce, aimed at creating a semblance of transition to African majority rule in the country.

The Smith-dissolved "Parliament," which mainly consisted of European settlers, succeeded in doing everything what the racists rulers needed. The "Consitution", adopted by it, which provides for April 20--scheduled "elections to a new parliament", fully retains control of the white population over political and economic life of the country. It will have in its hands the army, police and state apparatus. The white settlers who are to account for a third of the seats will have the right of veto on its decisions.

The racists have also seen to it that their African puppets should win the coming "elections". Preparations for elections are taking place in an atmosphere of violent terror. All who come out against the racists' election farce are persecuted in the country in which 90 percent of the territory are under a state of emergency. Every day up to 40 Africans, who support the patriots' struggle, die from the hands of punitive troops. Smith insolently said that under no circumstances he would allow the transfer of power in the country to the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front which is known to be the only legitimate representative of the people of that territory.

Political observers point out that Smith carries out the "internal settlement" process with the approval of Western powers which after the "elections" will lift "on legal" grounds the U.N. economic sanctions against the racist regime.

KULIK COMMENTS ON OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SESSION

LD011844 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 1, TASS--TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik writes:

The adherence of independent Africa to anti-imperialist principles of foreign policy has been confirmed again by the session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity now under way in Nairobi. Though the session was convened to discuss the budgetary matters, it paid much attention to problems connected with the struggle against racism and colonialism in southern Africa.

Actually all the speakers addressing the session in the Kenyan capital expressed a serious concern over the fact that with the connivance of Western powers the racists are creating an extremely explosive situation in the south African subcontinent. Staking on the creation of neocolonialist puppet regimes in Zimbabwe and Namibia they hope to mislead African masses that are inexperienced in politics with the semblance of the existence of the "black government" and thus to dampen the national liberation struggle in southern Africa. Such a decision concerning the future of Zimbabwe and Namibia would enable the West to preserve its economic positions in the area and also to make it a permanent source of international tension in the continent, a kind of bridgehead for staging provocations and intrigues against independent Africa.

The session confirmed again that not one decision determining the destinies of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia must be taken without the participation of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

The documents of the session emphasize the need of widening assistance to the national liberation movements and also contain a call to all Africa countries to respect the Charter of the Organisation of African Unity, and, specifically, the principles of territorial integrity and inviolability of the frontiers of African countries. For these purposes the committee of the Organisation of African Unity for settlement of inter-African conflicts sent special missions to Dar es Salaam and Kampala. These missions have been entrusted with the task of discussing with leaders of Uganda and Tanzania the ways of peaceful settlement of the armed conflict between these countries.

"There is no doubt that the session of the Council of Ministers of the Organisation of African Unity in Nairobi will give a fresh impetus toward complete liberation of southern Africa and solution of other problems that agitate the entire continent, said General secretary of the African National Congress Alfred Nzo. The general secretary of the African National Congress highly assessed the all-round support to the fighters for freedom given by the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community. This support, he said, has a specific nature, is always effective and timely. Those who try to distort the true meaning of the policy of the USSR in Africa are slanderers that must be resolutely exposed as imperialism' flunkeys.

SUDAN-ETHIOPIA TALKS ON NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS HELD

LD020001 Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Talks have been recently going on in Freetown in Sierra Leone on settling relations between Sudan and Ethiopia. The Organization of African Unity was acting as a mediator. However, the meeting, in which Mengistu Haile Mariam and Ja'far Numayri took part, failed to bring about any agreement. And here is what Radio Moscow news analyst Aleksandr Mikhaylov writes:

The main purpose of the summit meeting in Freetown was to remove the difficulties that were standing in the way of normalizing relations between the two countries. Relations were aggravated because of the policy conducted by the Sudanese authorities as regards the Eritrean problem. This policy did great harm to neighborly relations between the two countries. Bearing in mind their mutual interests, however, Ethiopia and Sudan decided to begin normalizing relations in December of 1977. At the talks held at that time, with the mediation of the Organization of African Unity, decisions were taken to help restore an atmosphere of mutual understanding, trust and cooperation. In accordance with those decisions the Ethiopian side made sincere moves to improve relations with Sudan. In an interview for the Sudan NOW magazine at the beginning of this month, the head of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, Mengistu Haile Mariam, spelled out the reasons why the problem of neighborliness is so vital. Sudan and Ethiopia, he said, are neighboring countries. They are linked together geographically and historically, and have a common border running 2,000 kilometres.

Relations between the Ethiopian and Sudanese people are strong not only because of that, but also because they are bound together by a political framework and a historic and cultural community. In the opinion of the head of the Ethiopian Government, a speedy restoration of the traditional and friendly contact between the two countries is in the interests of the Sudanese and Ethiopian peoples. There exists between our countries, he said, a stable basis for unity. Any problems that have cropped up between them can be solved. But as the talks in Freetown have shown, such a stand was a one-sided one; and, of course, improving conditions which meant interference in the internal affairs of Ethiopia could not help the success of the summit meeting.

INDOCHINA

CONTINUING REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON INVASION OF VIETNAM

TASS 1 Mar Roundup Report

LD011320 Moscow TASS in English 1219 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 1, TASS--Despite heavy losses in personnel and equipment, the Chinese aggressors try to widen the front of hostilities in northern provinces of Vietnam. They rush into the area of fighting ever more infantry, armoured troops and artillery reinforcements.

According to the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY and foreign news agencies, troops and home guards of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam fight off fierce attacks of the enemy and deal retaliatory blows. On February 27, the aggressors, having concentrated major forces of infantry, artillery and tanks launched an offensive in three directions in the Lang Son Province. But armed forces of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam arrested the enemy's advance. More than 1,000 enemy troops and three tanks were put out of action.

The attempt of the Chinese to launch an offensive from the border in the direction of the town of Dinh Lap situated on the route leading from Lang Son to the coast of the Gulf of Tonkin has been rebuffed.

The Chinese troops exert themselves to the utmost to step up the offensive operations, to widen the occupation. They managed to seize the town of Cao Bang and to cross the Da River in the Lao Cai district. Heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy.

The armed forces, home guards and population of Quang Ninh Province thwarted the enemy's offensive northwest of the town of Mong Cai. In that district the Chinese lost about 400 soldiers within one day. In other directions, Vietnamese soldiers and units of home guards rebuffed heavy attacks of interventionists.

The Chinese military is trying to turn into a wasteland the area of the Hong Son cooperative it occupies. One of the advanced economies of Lang Son Province that was famous for its good crops of rice and technical cultures exists no longer. All houses, farming machinery, implements and cattle were barbarously destroyed by the Chinese aggressors that use the Hitlerite tactic of scorched land.

Le Duan Addresses Fatherland Front

LD011332 Moscow TASS in English 1303 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 1, TASS--The plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Fatherland Front of Vietnam has ended here. It has outlined the specific tasks in rebuffing the barbarous aggression unleashed by the Chinese militarists against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam Le Duan spoke at the plenary meeting. He made a profound analysis of the present treacherous policy of the Chinese leaders with regard to Vietnam. He dwelt in detail on the tasks of the Fatherland Front of Vietnam and stressed that all organizations of the front must contribute to the construction and protection of the motherland.

The plenary meeting unanimously adopted a statement stigmatizing the great-power hegemonistic aspirations and extremely bellicose policy of the ruling circles of China.

It is pointed out that in the recent years the Chinese military staged the seizure of the Paracel Islands belonging to Vietnam, was instigating to war against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam the bloody clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary. Grossly flouting the United Nations Charter, it has now violated Vietnam's territorial integrity and sovereignty, is encroaching on its independence, is brazenly defying the entire socialist system, entire progressive mankind.

The Central Committee of the Fatherland Front of Vietnam expressed sincere gratitude to the Soviet Union, to fraternal socialist countries, to communist and workers parties for a strong and timely support for the just cause of the Vietnamese people. The plenary meeting urged the Chinese people to frustrate bloody designs of the Beijing reactionaries whose policy brings suffering also to the population of China.

Report on PRC Units, Atrocities

LD011335 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Feb 79 p 3 LD

[Special correspondent Lt Col V. Filatov report: "Fierce Fighting in Progress"]

[Text] Hanoi, 24 February--Fierce fighting is underway between the Chinese troops which have invaded Vietnamese territory and Vietnamese forces repelling the aggression. The Chinese invaders have occupied several district [uyezdnyye] centers. But they are meeting with an increasingly strong rebuff on all salients and are incurring heavy losses. The Vietnamese have recognized many of the captured Chinese combat engineers as "old friends." These engineers formerly gave what was called aid in building several roads in North Vietnam. Today very detailed maps compiled during construction work are being found on them. The Chinese crossed Vietnam's border on the very roads which they helped to build....

According to information available here, over 200,000 soldiers are taking part in combat operations on the aggressor's side. The Chinese grouping includes special subunits trained in conducting combat operations in mountainous regions and regions difficult to reach. One division is formed of Huaqiao, that is, Chinese of Vietnamese origin. It too is taking part in combat operations against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV]. The interventionists include many fanatics and cutthroats who are professional military men. They kill everything which lives, plunder and carry off even simple country pots.

All the invaders' rear services and communications are manned by members of the Chinese so-called agricultural communes. They bring in ammunition, carry the wounded from the battlefield and plunder the population. The captured "communards" are gloomy, downtrodden, hungry people. They have little understanding of what is happening. They say that if any member of the commune refuses to take part in the war he is dealt with simply--he is starved to death.

In all it is reported that over 15 Chinese divisions have penetrated Vietnamses territory and in some places are 30 km from the border.

This border was once a border of friendship. There were hundreds of villages here where the border passed literally along the main streets. In the years when Vietnam was repelling the aggression of U.S. imperialism in the south, the Chinese advanced the border in all these villages far into Vietnam. Now the Beijing adventurists are alleging that the border between China and Vietnam is very undefined and hypothetical. That is a lie!

The aggressor has not achieved his aim. The Vietnamese are repelling the interventionists. The invaders are literally trying to fill every Vietnamese combat position with the bodies of their soldiers. There have been occasions when the Chinese have gone on the attack up to 17 times.

The name of Dang Cong Quan became familiar in Vietnam 2 days ago. A young Vietnamese soldier, he is in his second year of service and is just 20 years old. In the recent fighting which lasted 2 days and nights, with brief respites, he killed 72 invaders single-handed.

Vietnam is waging a just liberation war. The movement under the slogan "We will achieve a decisive victory over the enemy" has been launched extensively in the units and subunits. The catch-phrase of the day in Vietnam now is "let us vanquish the aggressor both in merciless armed struggle and by very high labor productivity."

The people are rallying as never before; the people are with their heroic Communist Party. As in previous wars against invaders, the Communists are setting examples of personal heroism in the fighting. The Vietnamese soldiers hearts are filled with hatred when they hear of constant new crimes and atrocities which the aggressors are committing in temporarily captured territories. I was told by Vietnamese friends that on 17 February the Chinese interventionists cross the border during the dead of night. The occupiers broke into sleeping villages and massacred everyone regardless of age. In particular they totally annihilated the inhabitants of two large villages, Bao Lam and Pha Long. There are now ashes where these villages stood. Entering the village of (Tan Ga), the interventionists tied old men and children to trees and beat them to death with rifle butts. In the village of (Ma Yan Khoi) they raped the women and then disembowelled them and threw them into the river. The brutal occupiers are not sparing even their own soldiers. They do not bury the dead and the wounded are shot. That is what happened near Cao Bang, according to eyewitnesses.

As I am writing these lines fierce fighting is underway in the Cao Bang region. Its defenders are fighting to the death for every house, for every yard. The Vietnamese are now calling Cao Bang their Stalingrad. Many Chinese tanks have been burned on the approaches to it.

Stubborn fighting is underway in the Dong Dang region. Concentrating large forces, the enemy has tried to take a number of heights there. The Vietnamese soldiers have caused palpable damage to the invaders' infantry and armored units. The Chinese troops' advance on this and several other salients has been halted.

On a number of salients the aggressor is regrouping his troops. Reports are continuing to come in about the Chinese transferring additional men and equipment to the area of fighting. Everything shows that they are trying to hold their ground on the positions they have taken, despite heavy losses.

China's transfer of fresh military units to the combat zone totally destroys the false version disseminated by Beijing with respect to the "limited nature" of Chinese military operations in Vietnam.

Nationwide Resistance Movement

LD020917 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[Correspondent V. Skvortsov dispatch under general rubric "Fortitude and Heroism"]

[Text] Hanoi, 26 February--To judge from reports from various sectors of the fighting taking place along the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's northern border, the Chinese aggressors are continuing to bring into action fresh regular army divisions, new tanks and large-caliber artillery. Staunchly defending themselves, Vietnamese regional troops, people's militiamen and enterprise and cooperative self-defense detachments are established in well-equipped positions and are continuing to pulverize the aggressor's forces.

These days the military departments of Vietnam's commune, district, province and city people's committees are receiving tens of thousands of requests from workers, peasants, students and representatives of the intelligentsia to be sent to the front.

"We clearly realize," a student of Hanoi Higher Hydrological School said, "that we are going to fight not against the Chinese people but against those who are driving them to war in the name of their hegemonist ambitions. In defending the motherland's sacred soil we will be defending socialism against its traitors and against accomplices of imperialism who are trying to repeat the crime of fascism in Indochina."

An unusual atmosphere is now to be felt in the country's enterprises, villages and establishments. Mass rallies are being held here to express stern condemnation of the aggressor and powerful support for the soldiers who are setting examples of fortitude and heroism.

Vietnam's working people proclaim their determination to work with still greater effort and greater devotion to help the motherland and its glorious soldiers in the struggle against the Chinese aggressors.

Van Tien Dung Praises USSR Aid

LD011555 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Vietnam Will Be Victorious"]

[Text] Hanoi, 25 February--The aggressive war against Vietnam unleashed by the reactionary Chinese ruling circles using large military forces is an insolent challenge to the Vietnamese people and challenge to all the peace-loving peoples of the world, Army Gen Van Tien Dung, member of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chief of the Vietnamese People's Army General Staff, stated here at a reception on the occasion of Soviet Army and Navy Day. His speech was published today in the Hanoi press.

In beginning the aggression Beijing has revealed to the world its true face, which it is now impossible to hide--the mask of the most shameless militarists.

From the very beginning of the fighting the people's armed forces and militia detachments have dealt the aggressors mighty retaliatory blows and taught them a stern initial lesson, Van Tien Dung continued. The aggressors who have invaded our territory have sustained severe losses in terms of manpower and equipment. The Chinese militarists are still stubbornly trying to achieve their criminal aims, but justice will certainly be victorious.

The whole world supports Socialist Vietnam. The Chinese expansionists are in total isolation. The Chinese people are deceived by them, but even they can see the reactionary essence of the current Beijing rulers.

On behalf of the Vietnamese people Van Tien Dung expressed sincere gratitude to the Communist Party, government and people of the Soviet Union, to the other fraternal socialist countries and to the international public who took the Vietnamese people's side from the outset.

Indestructible solidarity, he concluded, will help the SRV Armed Forces to inflict a crushing defeat on the occupiers, to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of their homeland and to make a worthy contribution to the defense of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and throughout the world.

U.S.-ROK MILITARY EXERCISE WILL AGGRAVATE FAR EAST TENSIONS

SK020628 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 1 March 79 SK

[Petrov commentary]

[Text] According to foreign news reports, the U.S.-South Korea joint mobilization exercise "Team Spirit-79" was launched in South Korea on 1 March. This mobilization exercise is of an unprecedentedly large-scale one on the Korean Peninsula and includes participation by 176,000 U.S. Army and South Korean soldiers. The exercise is being carried out all over South Korea, beginning in the area of the military demarcation line--that is, near the border [kukkyong] of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The mobilization exercise, which is scheduled to last until 17 March, also includes participation by the U.S. carrier Midway, other ships of the U.S. 7th Fleet, Lance missile units and units of F-115 fighter-bombers.

According to an announcement from Seoul, this large-scale U.S.-South Korea mobilization exercise is designed to perfect operational coordination between the U.S. Armed Forces and the Seoul army in an emergency.

Foreign commentators note that the "Team Spirit-79" mobilization exercise is supported by the decision to indefinitely postpone the reduction of U.S. Armed Forces stationed in South Korea--a decision adopted sometime ago across the ocean with much ado. Facts show that the Pentagon is intensifying its influence over this area instead of withdrawing its forces in the near future. The U.S. Air Force in South Korea has been increased recently by 20 percent, and a plan to expand U.S. naval bases also has been completed. In addition, Washington is increasing its military assistance to Seoul. It is expected that the United States will sell $8 billion worth of modern weapons to South Korea to modernize the 600,000-man South Korean Army.

It is not difficult to conclude that U.S. militarists circles intend to utilize South Korean territory as a strategic military base and a training ground in this provocative mobilization exercise. It is also clear that this "Team Spirit-79" mobilization exercise, a common demonstration of power by the Pentagon and its Seoul conspirators, will aggravate tension in the Far East as well as in the Pacific area. This has given rise to deep concern and denunciation by the socialist nations of the world.

CPSU LEADERS MAKE ELECTION SPEECHES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

Kosygin in Moscow

LD012050 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1355 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Soviet Premier Aleksey Kosygin's 1 March election address to voters at Moscow Bolshoy Theater--live]

[Text] Esteemed Comrades,

You have bestowed great confidence and honor on me by putting me forward as candidate deputy to the Supreme Soviet. I am sincerely grateful for this to the collectives of the Trekhgornaya Manufaktura Imeni Dzerzhinskogo combine, the first state bearings works, house construction combine No 1, and to the collectives of all enterprises and organizations which you represent. I treasure the confidence of electors particularly, because in it I see above all an expression of popular recognition of the work of our Communist Party. [applause]

Everything that our people attained in building a mighty socialist state, that enjoys worldwide respect, is inseparable from the work of our party. The entire heroic path of the people is illuminated by the ideas and decisions of the party. As a leading force of society it directs its creative energy toward lofty aims.

The supreme essence of the party's activity is to serve the people. And in return, the Soviet people give the party their profound trust and complete support for the party's domestic and foreign policy and the activity of the party's Central Committee and Politburo headed by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet. [applause]

The party and the people highly assess the tireless and selfless work of Leonid Ilich in his top-level posts in party and state, his principled Bolshevist line, his deep humanity, his enormous experience of party political and leading activity at the fronts during the Great Patriotic War and during the period of peaceful construction, his profound understanding of the vital problems of our development and the international situation. Recognition of the outstanding services of Leonid Ilich Lenin [as heard, presumably Brezhnev] is also manifested in the fact that his was the first name to be put forward in the nomination of candidate deputies for the Supreme Soviet.

At the present time, when the election campaign is already coming to an end, everyone can see the wide scope it has given to the people's initiative and the Soviet people's activity in all spheres of their life, in production and social affairs, in the broad search for ways and means to enable the tasks facing us to be solved more quickly and more successfully, and to eliminate shortcomings. For this reason elections in our country are a celebration of democracy and our people's power embodied in the soviets.

The wonderful Russian word "soviet" is rich in meaning. Back in the remote past the people imbued it with the broad notion not only of good sense and experience, concord and friendship but also readiness to help to find a solution to some issue or other and to choose the correct path to the goal. The revolutionary creativity of the masses discovered for the world fresh meaning in this word--the meaning of "soviets" as bodies for the working people's struggle for revolution and socialism and as the political basis of history's first socialist state. The soviets of 1905, which became the prototype for Soviet power, were the start of the great cause which had and continues to have a powerful influence not only on the political development of our country but also on the whole course of world history. Everywhere in the world, Vladimir Ilich Lenin stressed, the word "soviet" has become not only understandable but also popular and a favorite of workers and all the working people. Over the past decades the soviets have earned themselves tremendous authority among the people and its respect and trust.

In the elections the Soviet people are in practice realizing their right to participate in the running of state and public affairs. This right, like the right to work and recreation, medical care and education, material provision for old age and housing and all the other rights, could become a reality only under socialism.

They are guaranteed under the fundamental law of the country, our Constitution. They are provided with the material resources of the state and are safeguarded by the entire order of our life. The Soviet people were struggling for the victory of the new social system in order to secure for everyone the fundamental right of man--the right to dignified existence without exploitation, to a free and comprehensive development of personality. The realization in practice of all our constitutional rights and freedoms serves this lofty and humane aim. It is evidence of the fact that concern for human rights is rooted in the very nature of the socialist system, and that the banner of human rights and freedoms is the banner of socialism. [applause]

In bourgeois society, where there is often talk of human rights of man, in fact many of these rights are of little weight or real significance for the working people. For example, what do the following facts show? When up to one half, or even two-thirds, of the electorate ignore the elections held in capitalist countries, it shows the political apathy of the voters and their lack of belief in the fact that by making use of the citizens' right to vote might limit the omnipotence of big capital and change their life for the better.

An unemployed person, for example, knows well that his participation in an election will certainly do nothing to increase his chances of finding work, or receiving a guaranteed wage, of ceasing to be a superfluous person. Those who are subjected to social and national discrimination and oppression constantly feel the rigid limitations of their opportunities in the conditions of the capitalist system. They know that too many rights in that society are no more than a glossy advertisement for bourgeois democracy, and no one is in a position to say how much grief, deprivation and misery is caused to people by the whole inhuman manifestation of the bourgeois order protected by it.

The Soviet reality sets against this the strengthening moral and political unity of society, the equality of all nations and ethnic groups of our country--not only in law, but in fact; their fraternal cooperation in the building of a new society. The Communist Party will continue to consolidate the fraternal friendship of the peoples of our socialist state and improve socialist democracy. The steady rise of the Soviet economy and the growth of the people's prosperity--these are the reliable foundation on which the further development of the country's political life rests. And in its turn, the improvement of socialist democracy and the ever wider involvement of the masses in the management of society and the state help the Soviet people to achieve new successes in the economic development of the country.

A little less than 5 years have elapsed since we met here in the Bolshoy Theatre on the eve of the last elections to the Supreme Soviet.

At the center of attention then were the great tasks facing Muscovites and the working people of the whole country in the concluding stage of the ninth 5-Year Plan. Soon after its impressive results were summed up at the 25th CPSU Congress. The heroic labor of Soviet people made it possible, as was noted at the congress, to take a major step in the creation of the material and technical basis of communism, in raising the people's standard of living and in insuring the country's security.

In all trends of economic and social development the Soviet people have made substantial progress also in the first 3 years of the 10th 5-Year Plan.

The results of their creative activity and the topical tasks of our economic and cultural construction were vividly reflected in the appeal to the electors by the party's Central Committee. This important party document gave a profound analysis of all the important aspects of our political and economic life and revealed the trends of the activity of the party and of the people in implementing the historic decisions of the 25th party congress and subsequent plenums of the party's Central Committee.

As a result of the all-round progress characteristic of Soviet society we are dealing in our economics with quite a different scale, even when comparison with the recent past. In the last 5 years alone R400 billion of basic productive assets have been brought into operation in the national economy. And a mere 11 years ago, at the beginning of 1968, that was the size of all the fixed production assets which our country had at its disposal. Over these same 5 years, some R160 billion has been invested in agriculture. This is more than in the first 50 years of Soviet power.

These figures show how--as the party planned--in the period between elections a considerable growth in the country's economic might has been insured. They show with what purposefulness the party has implemented its agrarian policy aimed at boosting agricultural production and at resolving the task of satisfying the growing requirements of the population for foodstuffs and of industry for raw materials.

Five years ago, when preparing for the elections to the country's Supreme Soviet, the party stressed anew that it saw the chief aim of its economic policy in improving the life of the people and in more fully satisfying their material and spiritual needs. And in all these years the party has consistently, step by step, implemented the course laid down at the congresses.

Over the years which have elapsed, almost R340 billion more has been assigned to the operating expenses and the construction of housing, schools, hospitals and other non-production purpose projects than was the case in the preceding 5-year plan. This has made it possible to implement a broad program of social measures and to raise the level of well-being of all strata of our society. Because of centralized state measures alone, the earnings of over 50 million industrial, office and professional workers have been increased. Kolkhoz workers' pay increased by 26 percent. Important measures were effected by way of the public consumption funds--benefit payments to the population last year amounted to more than R150 billion. Our economic and social achievements are the result of the selfless labor of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and the national intelligentsia. These achievements contain the worthy contribution of all our country's nations and ethnic groups and the working people of all the union republics.

Our capital, Moscow, plays a great role in the country's life. It has written outstanding and glorious pages in the homeland's history. Its contribution today to the national cause is, as always, weighty and significant. The Muscovites' doings, successes and tasks constituted the object of principled discussion at the recent 23d city party conference. They were thoroughly analyzed in the Moscow Gorkom report, delivered by Comrade Grishin. The conference decisions are mobilizing the communists and all the working people of the capital for shock work for the benefit of the people.

In recent years the Muscovites have done a great deal to accomplish the task set by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev: to turn Moscow into a model communist city. In accordance with the general development plan, new residential areas and production zones, avenues and squares have been constructed, many monuments of history and architecture have been restored and included in city ensembles.

In 5 years residential housing with an overall area of more than 23 million square meters has been constructed in Moscow. This is equivalent to creating a new, well-designed town with a 1.5 million population. A large number of schools, children's pre-school establishments, hospitals, polyclinics, stores and communal consumer service facilities have been brought into service. Under the supervision of the party organization, labor collectives in Moscow have achieved a condition where there are no industrial enterprises not fulfilling their annual plans for the marketing of products. That is an example worthy of our remarkable capital. [applause]

Many popular and mass labor initiatives stem from Moscow, and these are widely applied and supported throughout the country. Their influence is felt not only on the economy but also on social relations; and it is difficult to overestimate the consciousness of people. Their participation exemplifies a communist attitude to matters. The labor of Muscovites has been highly appraised. According to 1978 results Moscow was awarded the Challenge Red Banner of the Central Committee, the Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee. [applause] That appraisal of the work of labor collectives is, at the same time, a recognition of the great and wide-ranging activity carried out by the Moscow city party organization, one of the experienced and front-ranking detachments of our Communist Party. [applause] Like the whole of the country, Moscow is growing rapidly, extending its amenities and living a fullblooded labor life.

The Muscovites' achievements in the city's development are considerable and a cause for joy. At the same time, I should like to express certain wishes. I, as a deputy to the Supreme Soviet for Moscow, receive letters from electors offering proposals on various questions of the life of our city. In particular, these letters point out existing shortcomings in capital construction, saying that in the new fast-growing districts the commissioning of children's establishments, outpatients' surgeries, shops and consumer service enterprises in a number of cases lags behind the construction of residential areas. Many citizens ask about improving the functioning of the urban passenger transportation system and write about public transportation timetables not being observed and about long lines at stops during peak hours. All these are, of course, abnormal occurrences, and no allowances can be made in these cases simply because of heavy traffic or the high rate of housing construction. The Moscow Soviet Executive Committee and its bodies should show more concern for the timely provision of other types of services, too, for the residents of newly built areas.

Crucial work has yet to be carried out to prepare for the 1980 Olympic Games. The games' organizers and constructors have a lot yet to construct and reconstruct; they have to train a large number of workers in various jobs and do everything necessary to insure that the Olympic Games are conducted efficiently. This major sporting event must serve the noble cause of friendship and mutual understanding among peoples.

Comrades, the country has entered the fourth year of the 5-year plan. This year accelerated growth in production of industrial and agricultural produce, in labor productivity, in retail trade turnover and in the population's real incomes is planned. The country's national income is due to be increased by over R17 billion. The party's Central Committee in its appeal to all electors and citizens of the country called on all working people to turn 1979 into a year of shock labor and to launch nationwide socialist competition for successful fulfillment of the plans of the current year and the 10th 5-Year Plan period as a whole.

The main thing now is to make the fullest use of the economic and scientific-technical potential that has been created in the country and to eliminate the shortcomings in work which are hampering this.

The November plenum of the party's Central Committee stressed the importance of further improving the whole system of economic management. The task, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said, is to raise the level of planning and management and to bring it into line with the requirements of the current stage, the stage of advanced socialism. This is a most important task for all economic, administrative and party bodies.

At the present time the Council of Ministers, with the participation of ministries and departments, scientists and practical staff, is completing preparation of proposals for an improvement in the management mechanism of industry and capital construction. To describe briefly their essence--it is to orient maximally the plan and all management toward resolving the main tasks of our development, achievement of high final results in production, acceleration of scientific-technical progress, raising of production efficiency and products quality.

April will mark the 50th anniversary of the adoption by the 16th party conference of the First 5-Year Plan. Since then the national economic plans have become the main tool in implementation of the party's economic policy. The history of the Soviet 5-year plans is a history of the building of an advanced socialist society, of the real flourishing of science and economics, the solution in very short periods of major socioeconomic tasks. A single, powerful national economy complex has been created in the country. Huge new territories have been assimilated. New industrial, agricultural, scientific and cultural centers have been created, each of which is making an ever increasing contribution to the solution of tasks of all the people.

For example, in the West Siberian economic region in the period between the elections to the Supreme Soviet extraction of oil increased by 166 million tons, of gas by 78 billion cubic meters. This region has become the foundation of the country's fuel base. The virgin lands have become one of our main grain crop regions; last year virtually every other ton of grain crop procured by the state was grown there.

The history of the 5-year plans is the history of the spiritual growth of Soviet people, of fundamental and irreversible changes in their consciousness, and this, as is known, is one of the most important tasks of the socialist revolution. Many of those present in the hall will remember the great enthusiasm of the first 5-year plans, the labor feats and victories of the people. Let us recall "Our Biography," the historic epic of the country, shown on televisionfor the 60th anniversary of Soviet power. How many unforgettable, exciting documentary pictures it contained, revealing the great joy of man, who felt himself the true creator of the fate of his own country, and who felt in the atmosphere of a socialist collective such an enormous internal strength and certainty which he had not before even suspected.

Without this internal strength, which the revolutionary upheaval reflected in the social consciousness, it would have been impossible to build either the Dneproges and the Magnitka or the (?"Komsomolskaya Vtoroye") in Baku, to gain victory at Moscow or Stalingrad, to rout Hitlerite fascism, to upturn the virgin soil or to send man into space. Without this it would have been impossible to build advanced socialism, in which the interests of the individual are indivisible from the interests of soceity.

Every one of our 5-year plans is a new stage in the development of Soviet economy. This year there is much work to be done in compiling the 11th 5-Year Plan and for the main directions of economic and social development of the Soviet Union up to 1990. Very crucial tasks confront the Council of Ministers and the Gosplan, the Councils of Ministers of the union republics and ministries.

They must correctly assess and take timely account of the new requirements, foresee corresponding changes in production and lay down specific measures for attaining in a planned way the aims set by the party. It is necessary to find and incorporate in the plan optimal solutions making for a dynamic and balanced development of all branches of the economy, in accordance with the party line for an accelerated changover to intensive factors in the country's economic growth. A leading role in this belongs to industry, above all to heavy industry. In the new 5-year plan period it will be necessary to implement major measures for further developing the fuel and power complex.

Now when many capitalist countries are experiencing growing anxiety over meeting their energy requirements we are confidently looking to the future. Our plans provide for a steady growth in the country's fuel and power industry for many years ahead. The utilization of the possibilities of nuclear energy is acquiring particular significance. We have set up a special branch of nuclear engineering, whose development will facilitate a considerable expansion of the construction of nuclear power stations, particularly in the European part of the country, and an increase in nuclear power's share in the total volume of electricity generation. This will insure not only a great saving in organic fuel but will also remove the need for carrying an immense amount of fuel from the distant eastern areas to the European area. In addition, shortly it is planned to place the very rich deposits of cheap coal, mined by the open-cast method in the eastern regions, at the service of power-engineering, and to speed up construction of the big Kansk-Achinsk fuel and power complex. The extraction of gas is also to grow in the east at fast rates. All this creates a reliable base for satisfying the country's growing requirements for fuel and power resources.

The metallurgical workers are faced with great tasks in the new 5-year plan period. This industry in the past 5-year plan period considerably increased its volume of production. However, the national economy's requirements for metal are being met today only with a great struggle. Such questions as improving the quality and expanding the range of metal products and sharply reducing the amount of metal wasted during production and processing are now being brought to the forefront. Along with this, it is necessary to improve design ideas in the building of machine tools, machinery and equipment and to achieve a reduction in their weight. In other words, we have to formulate and implement a program for saving metal which should become an organic part of the new 5-year plan.

In this connection the plan will provide for a priority rate of growth for the production of plastics, whose use secures a reduction in expenditure of metal, including non-ferrous metals and stainless steel. The results of research and experimental design work provide grounds for regarding plastics not merely as effective substitutes for other materials but also as equivalent and, in a number of cases, irreplaceable materials. In the 11th 5-Year Plan new highly durable design plastics, enabling the quality and operational reliability of products to be significantly enhanced, are to be created and introduced into the national economy.

We will be developing the production of other types of products of the chemicals industry at a fast rate, too. In 1985 the industry is due to supply agriculture with 135-140 million tons of mineral fertilizer, that is, almost 1.8 times more than last year. There will be a considerable increase in the supply of chemicals for protecting plants and of fodder supplements.

A solution of all the tasks facing the country's economy depends in the most direct way on the development of machinebuilding. The party has devised and is consistently implementing a course for raising efficiency. For this it is essential to raise constantly the level of machinery and technology and to carry out the technical retooling of production. This is a big national-economic problem, whose solution will require considerable efforts and an accelerated development in machine tool engineering, instrument-making and production of means of automation and electronic computing equipment. Every year we build hundreds of new enterprises and installations. On an ever broader scale the technical reconstruction of functioning work and factories is being carried out. It is very important that they accord with the highest standards of present-day production and should embody the latest achievements of technical thought. This is one of the most important tasks of the plan, in which the results of the great and fruitful work done by our scientists, the Academy of Sciences and the scientific and technical public community of the country must find their specific expression.

A primary task for mechanical engineers in the new 5-year plan is to speed up output of high efficiency technology, which enables labor productivity to be raised significantly, goods production to be increased with a smaller number of workers, and to increase labor productivity. [as heard]

Today the thing is integral mechanization of all stages of the production process from extracting raw materials to turning out the finished product. Along with this it is necessary in the future to expand significantly the output of equipment that eliminates human labor in unskilled, monotonous tasks and under harsh conditions. The labor process must fully correspond to the constantly growing educational level and spiritual needs of soviet people.

Mechanical engineering can achieve a substantial saving by increasing shift work at enterprises, by transferring those who are working on a one or one and one half-shift basis to a two-shift basis. This will enable capital investments requirements for the development of mechanical engineering to be reduced, and the resources released to be devoted to solving a number of other tasks, including those directly connected with the growth of the prosperity of people.

The party Central Committee and government attach great importance to the development of railroad transportation and to overcoming those difficulties which exist in its work during this year. In 1979 more capital investments are being directed to this sector than was envisaged in the 5-year-plan. We are setting aside vast resources for the construction of the Baykal-Amur Railway, the Surgut-Urengoy route; their commissioning will enable the rich natural resources of the Trans-Baykal area, southern Yakutia, the Far East and Western Siberia to be more intensively exploited. Their commissioning will make it possible to accelerate creation of production, housing and cultural and consumer conditions favoring the retention of cadres. In the next 5-year plan not only must the construction of these railroads be completed but major work must also be done to expand the throughput of the existing railroads with their intense freight traffic. While planning is being formulated for the development of branches of the national economy, special attention must be paid to questions of location of productive forces, taking account of the presence and freight load on transportation systems. Gosplan and the ministries must work decisively to eliminate irrational haulage and cross-hauls and utilize the possibilities for switching part of the freight flows from rail transportation to water and other types of transportation.

A most important task set by the party is to obtain a reliable supply of foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials for the country. In order to create a reliable foundation for obtaining high harvests, the July 1978 plenum of the party Central Committee outlined major measures for further strengthening the material and technical base of agriculture. In the coming 5-year plan integral mechanization will be completed of the cultivation of the most important agricultural crops; transition of animal husbandry to an industrial foundation will be accelerated; supply of electricity for agricultural production will rise 1.6-1.8 times in the 11th 5-Year Plan. To accelerate the resolution of so important a problem as reducing the time required for agricultural work and reducing the losses of produce during harvesting, special significance is attached to industrial development and transition to production of more powerful and modern equipment. It is intended to speed up the reconstruction of the Volgograd, Pavlodar, and Lipetsk tractor works and also other agricultural engineering works. Of course, success in agriculture is largely determined not only by the power and quantity of equipment but also by its quality and reliability in operation. These questions must constantly be the focus of attention for our designers and engineers.

This year is the first year of action of the program of the July plenum. Extensive construction of production facilities must be implemented, supplies of equipment and mineral fertilizers must be increased, and much work must be done to reclaim land and to improve and provide facilities at rural inhabited points. It is now above all necessary to complete in the shortest time the preparation for spring field work, and to create a solid base for the 1979 harvest. The party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers recently adopted a special decision on this question, in accordance with which a large number of additional measures are being implemented to strengthen the material base of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. A beneficial influence will also be exerted on their economies by the implementation as of 1 January 1979 of increasing procurement prices for milk, wool, karakul, mutton, potatoes and some vegetables to a total sum of approximately R3.2 billion--without, of course, an increase in retail prices. This in itself insures the necessary level of profitability for these products and intensifies the economic stake of kolkhozes and sovkhozes in increasing their production.

However today, before the start of the new agricultural year, I want to say a few words about a matter of such importance to the country as the technical level of production in the very broadest meaning of the word. Powerful machinery, fertilizers and chemicals to protect plants are arriving in the countryside in a growing stream; crop technology has become considerably more complicated, and the yields of the majority of agricultural crops have risen. And as a consequence of this, the strain on the soil has risen greatly. Therefore it is more necessary now than ever before to deal with the soil skillfully, study these questions [as heard], protect the soil and keep it in the right condition. The state allots major resources to increasing the production of mineral fertilizers. However, the application of fertilizers does not everywhere and always comply with the requirements of crop technology, and consequently the efficiency of chemicalization is also reduced. The agricultural bodies must follow more strictly the way fertilizers are utilized; bring strictly to account all the leading workers who permit mismanagement and negligence in this sphere; it is also necessary to increase yields on improved land.

We expect our scientists, the all-union Academy of Agricultural Sciences named after Vladimir Ilich Lenin [VASKANIL], will apply all their forces to produce new, high-yield strains of agricultural crops and to introduce new breeds of livestock and poultry, better than existing ones. It is necessary to use more fully the possibilities being created by interfarm cooperation and agroindustrial integration. This is the most effective way to raise the output of farm produce, making it possible to achieve good results with reduced expenditure. This is shown inter alia by the experience of over 9,000 interfarm and agroindustrial enterprises and associations already working in the country.

They can play a big part in solving such an important problem as the reduction of losses of agricultural products and the delivery of all output to the consumer without losses. The interfarm and agroindustrial association has more funds and possibilities to insure high-quality storing of the produce grown, to set up enterprises for primary processing and to improve seed cultivation and fodder supply.

The party has set out and has been consistently implementing in the interest of the people the task of making agriculture a highly developed sector of the economy. At the same time the success of its implementation depends above all on people, on their skill and experience, on their responsible attitude to the task in hand. The party considers a most important orientation of its agrarian policy to be the improvement of the material, cultural and practical conditions of life in the rural areas and bringing them closer to the living conditions of the city, and the enhancement of the level of qualification and education of the rural working people. The planning bodies must provide in the new 5-year plan for further measures designed to endow agriculture with cadres, to expand housing development and create all the necessary conditions for a fullblooded life and fruitful labor of the rural population.

The Soviet state is annually increasing the resources directed toward enhancing the well-being of the people. In the production of many goods, in particular, footwear, textiles and clothing, our industry has achieved big performance figures as regards quantity. We will continue to proceed along this path, to implement steadfastly the course adopted by the party for the accelerated development of light industry and in every way to expand the output of consumer goods.

At the same time it is now necessary to pay special attention to raising quality, extending the required range and improving finish and external appearance. The ministries and Gosplan should take special control over these matters, provide in the 5-year plan for the extensive reconstruction and transfer to a new technical basis of enterprises producing consumer goods. It is also necessary to map out plans and measures to satisfy the requirements of light industry for dyes, chemicals and finishing and packing materials.

A more energetic role in the matter of raising the quality of goods must be played by the Ministry of Trade and the trading organizations on the spot. They possess sufficient rights and opportunities for this. Trade bodies need to improve the study of consumer demands and to step up their influence on the shaping of the production programs of industry producing consumer goods. Trade orders should predetermine the volume and nomenclature of goods included in the plan, and the efficiency of the work of industrial enterprises lies in fulfilling these orders. Both the plan and the criteria for appraising the work of enterprises should orient economic managers to the utmost to solve the whole complex of questions connected with improving the quality of goods, which are required by our customer.

The party and the state will unfailingly continue to focus on other questions too of raising the well-being of the Soviet people. We will put the gains of contemporary science and technology, human reason and labor to the service of the interests of the all-round and harmonious development of each member of society.

Comrades, the party Central Committee and the Soviet Government are paying unremitting attention to matters of the international situation, to the formulation and implementation of necessary practical measures in accordance with the program of the 24th and 25th party congresses. The foreign policy of the party and state is invariably based on the principles of proletarian, socialist internationalism, and on the principles of peaceful coexistence of states with varying social systems. It is characterized by the profound and all-round consideration of factors influencing the situation, activity and preparedness for wide cooperation in the interests of the cause of peace and the defense of the freedom and independence of the peoples. The Soviet Union is a mighty state, and the Soviet people can depend on the firmness of our defense. Because of the continuing arms race and the marked reanimation of the whole activity of militaristic and aggressive forces, we must maintain and strengthen the defense potential of the Soviet Union and our armed forces. They were created not for aggression but for the defense of the land of the soviets, the revolutionary gains of its people, and the cause of peace. They have traveled a heroic path, remaining loyal to that noble aim and will remain loyal to it always. This and nothing else determines the concern of the party and the people that the Soviet Army, Navy and our border troops should have everything they need at their disposal to counteract effectively any attempts to violate the peaceful labor of the Soviet people.

Our principles also determine such an important and distinctive feature of our foreign policy as its consistency and stability. We proceed from the fact that despite all the efforts by the opponents of detente, they have not managed to cancel out the positive advances [sdvig] in international relations achieved in the seventies, and the trend toward relaxation of tension continues to be a leading one in international life.

At the same time there is much in the development of events in the world which is arousing the grave concern of peace-loving forces. A most shameful crime against the cause of peace and progress has been perpetrated by the Chinese leadership. The attack on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and on its heroic and much-suffering people is a cynical and barbaric act of international banditry. The Chinese aggression against Vietnam has more than anything else exposed the hegemonistic essence of the Beijing leadership's policy. It has shown with what ease Beijing can move from a policy of blackmail to unleashing military actions, and with what irresponsibility it can cross the fatal line dividing peace from war. This is a policy of adventurism. It makes not only China's neighbors think deeply. But also any connivance with such a policy is extremely dangerous, because this is connivance with violence and diktat, connivance with the Chinese leadership's attempts to plunge the peoples into a new war. Aggression cannot be justified: It must be condemned; it demands a firm rebuff.

The Vietnamese people, like many other peoples, have had to meet the aggressor face to face more than once, but they did not waver and did not yield to him. They defended their freedom and independence and their right to build life as they think fit.

The Vietnamese people will not back down this time either. They have on their side the fraternal solidarity and support of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and the sympathies of the whole of peace-loving mankind. Vietnam will not be abandoned in its misfortune. As has been said in the Soviet Government statement: Our country will fulfill the commitments it assumed under the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. [applause]

The Chinese policy of diktat and interference in the internal affairs of other peoples has suffered a collapse in Kampuchea. The people of this country have overthrown the bloody regime of the pro-Beijing Pol Pot grouping which was brutally exterminating the population of its country, turning it into a mass torture chamber.

The changes which have taken place in Kampuchea are irreversible. The Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea has stated that it will pursue a policy of peaceful coexistence, of goodneighborliness and cooperation with all countries, and the construction of a peaceful, independent, democratic and neutral Kampuchea following the socialist path.

This is what makes so utterly false the attempts of the Beijing leadership to link in someway its aggression against Vietnam with the situation in Kampuchea. Those who are consciously or inadvertently playing up to Beijing in the international area by displaying a most strange so-called "equal" approach both toward Chinese aggression and toward events in Kampuchea must derive the necessary conclusions from this. To put an aggressor on a par with his victims amounts to mocking them, to encouraging the invaders to more adventures.

It is not accidental that alarming reports have been coming in over the past few days indicating a possibility of Beijing's aggression being extended to Laos. The policy of appeasing the aggressor must not be repeated; the peoples have already paid too high a price for it. Nor are the Chinese people an exception in this respect. They know what war is; it has brought them sacrifice and suffering--but those were sacrifices in the name of liberation, of independence and of a better future. However, the Chinese people are now being forced to play the part of executor of designs alien to them, of the designs of the rulers in Beijing aimed against peace and socialism.

Therein lies a great tragedy for the people, but it is impossible not to believe that the Chinese people will withstand these tests and will live in friendship and mutual understanding with the peoples of Vietman, the Soviet Union and other peace-loving countries of the world. [applause]

It is quite evident that the aggressive policy of the Chinese leadership is being encouraged by the activities of imperialist reaction, which opposes peaceful coexistence and detente. Forces in the West and in the Far East, hostile to the cause of peace are doing everything to make an atmosphere of cold war prevail again in international relations, and to make states renounce their efforts to create the prerequisites for the curbing and cessation of the arms race. Those forces would have achieved their aim long ago, had they not been countered by the might of the Soviet Union and of the whole socialist community, which has been placed at the service of peace. Of inestimable importance, therefore, for the cause of peace and progress is the cohesion of the socialist countries, their close cooperation and their ability to organize their joint activities in the spheres of politics, economy and defense that they correspond in the best way to the solution of the main foreign-policy task, the strengthening of peace.

In the interests of peace and progress, and of the freedom and independence of the peoples, the Soviet Union will continue to strengthen its cooperation with all peace-loving states and with all political forces standing for detente and peaceful coexistence. Their influence in the world is growing; and the main thing is that their efforts aimed at insuring peace should steadily become stronger and ever more effective. As for the Soviet Union, all our resources and the entire prestige and influence of our state are being used by us to defuse international tension, stop the arms race and make peace more stable and more durable.

Ultimately, our struggle for detente and disarmament and for removing the threat of war is directed toward giving the peoples the opportunity of using as extensively as possible their resources for constructive ends and of utilizing in this the great advantages of international cooperation and thereby accelerating mankind's economic and social progress.

This is a great task. It is worthy of the tremendous efforts the Soviet Union constantly devotes to bringing its solution nearer. International cooperation is becoming a factor of ever greater significance in world politics and world economics. For every country, regardless of its social system, this is a real way of insuring stable and mutually beneficial relations with other countries. For all countries and regions of the world as a whole this is the only possible way of solving a number of global problems, which face all mankind and which can be solved only by the collective efforts of the peoples. These are questions of the preservation of peace, of supplying energy and food, of protecting the environment, and many others. The Soviet Union is wholly in favor of such cooperation, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said. In this, if one looks deeper, lies the content of the foreign policy course which we call the course of peaceful coexistence. And the most important of all these global problems, whose solution provides the key to all the others is the prevention of a new world war.

As the participant states of the Warsaw Pact declared in their Moscow declaration in November of last year, they will do everything to insure that this great task is solved and that mankind should step into the 21st century in conditions of stable peace and broad international cooperation.

The fullest expression of our course for the development of such cooperation has been found in our relations with the fraternal socialist countries. This year, we mark the 30th anniversary of CEMA. Today it comprises 10 socialist countries in Europe, Asia and America, in which 435 million people live.

CEMA countries account for about one-third of the world's industrial production. Their national income growth rates over three decades were almost three times greater and industrial growth rates four times greater than in the developed capitalist countries. In 1978 the community's countries produced considerably more electricity, oil, gas, pig iron, steel, mineral fertilizers and cement than the whole world did in the year CEMA was formed, that is 30 years ago. The main result of the CEMA countries' cooperation over the three decades is that for the first time in mankind's history economic relations, based on the principles of equality, fraternal mutual aid, on the planned management of the economy, on the unity of the interests of each country and the interests of the community as a whole and on the principles of socialist internationalism, emerged and strengthened in practice and on an international scale. The decisions adopted of late by CEMA, and primarily the formulation and implementation of a number of long-term specific programs, are firmly placing the CEMA countries' cooperation on the rails of integration and orienting it toward the achievement of such vitally important goals as resolving the energy problem, accelerating the rate of technical progress and the overall boosting of the economy and the well-being of the peoples of the socialist countries.

In conformity with our plans which are now being formulated, the Soviet Union proposes the continued development of economic relations with a wide range of countries, including the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America and also with all the countries of the West.

Other conditions being equal it will be possible to envisage in the 5-year plan more active development of goods turnover with those countries with which trade is conducted on a long-term basis and in accordance with the principles of reciprocity and most-favored nation status. I believe that such an approach meets the interests of our trading partners, too.

Stable economic links are incompatible with any sort of restrictions or discrimination, and less still with attempts at interference in the internal affairs of peoples. It is just this kind of reason which accounts primarily for the absence of progress in the development of our trade with the United States. If the hindrances are eliminated, then trade and economic links between the Soviet Union and the United States might be considerably extended and become, moreover, an important factor in a general improvements in relations between the two countries.

In trade and other international exchanges we see an effective means of enhancing detente and trust between states. At the same time everything that undermines trust cannot promote international trade either, this means first and foremost a buildup of military preparations, interference in the affairs of other peoples and encouragement, in particular by arms supplies, of the peace-endangering course of those forces pursuing a policy of expansionism and subversion of international detente. All of this cannot but cloud prospects for economic links with relevant countries. And we shall to an even greater extent orient ourselves to cooperation with those who do not jeopardize long-term interests for the sake of dubious benefits in the immediate situation. The course toward the development of international cooperation is determined by the general direction of the foreign-political course of the Communist Party and of the Soviet state and the decisions of the 25th party congress. It is a course of peace.

It meets with the approval and support of all progressive mankind on earth. Soviet people know and may be firmly assured that the party's Central Committee and the Soviet Government will spare no effort to consolidate and develop further the positive results in the struggle for relaxation of tension and to preserve and consolidate peace for the peoples.

Comrades, our Communist Party is standing at the elections to the Supreme Soviet with a clear and constructive program. It is set forth in the appeal of the Central Committee to the electors. This program reflects the consistency of the party's Leninist policy, aimed at the further strengthening of the Soviet socialist state, the development of the national economy, the raising of the people's well-being, and the consolidation of the international positions of the country and of the cause of peace in the whole world.

The experience of decades proves that our party's words do not differ from its deeds. No matter what complex tasks the party has set itself, it has always found within itself the will, ability and courage to reach the goal which has been set. The decisive condition for this, today too, is the monolithic cohesion of the party around its Central Committee and its Politburo led by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, [applause] the unity of the party and the people and their fidelity to creative Marxism-Leninism.

There is no doubt that in the coming elections, which the party as in the past is approaching in close alliance with the nonparty members, our people will vote for the party's policy, for Soviet power and for successful progress toward the great goal of communism. [applause]

Comrades, I want to express to you great gratitude for this remarkable meeting, for the remarks which were made here, addressed to our great Communist Party. I wish you, respected comrades and all electors, great success in labor and new creative force to resolve the historic tasks facing our socialist society. [prolonged, stormy applause]

Romanov in Leningrad

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[TASS report on G.V. Romanov meeting with voters: "To the Glory of the Motherland and for the Benefit of the People" carried under the rubric "Preelection Meetings of the Working People"]

[Text] The people of Leningrad, as all the Soviet people, are approaching the USSR Supreme Soviet elections with tremendous political and labor enthusiasm. The CPSU Central Committee address to all voters and citizens of the USSR met with a fervent response from the working people of Leningrad City and oblast. Labor collectives had adopted stepped-up socialist pledges and they are fully determined to fulfill the targets of the present year and of the 5-year plan as a whole ahead of schedule, and to substantially contribute to implementing the 25th CPSU Congress decisions.

This was said by the voters of Leningrad city's Moskovskiy Electoral Okrug at a meeting with Grigoriy Vasilyevich Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningradskiy Obkom, who is this okrug's candidate for deputyship in the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union. The meeting took place on 16 February at the V.A. Kapranov Palace of Culture.

The meeting was opened by A.V. Chernukhin, first secretary of the Moskovskiy Raykom.

An honorary Presidium consisting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, was elected with great enthusiasm by those assembled.

Hero of Socialist Labor, A.N. Morosov, a milling machine operator at the "Elektrosila" association, who is the candidate deputy's fiduciary, gave an account of G.V. Romanov's life and activity, and called upon all the voters to cast their votes unanimously on election day for the candidates of the inviolable bloc of Communists and nonparty people.

Addressing the meeting were Prof G.A. Matveyev, director of the Academician A.N. Drylov Central Scientific Research Institute; V.V. Smirnova, secretary of the party committee of the "Skorokhod" footwear association; O. Ya. Berestovoy, master of production training at the No 110 rural vocational and technical school; G.F. Polenova, tiler at No 16 Glavleningradstroy; and others.

Those who addressed the meeting spoke of the fact that the inviolable unity of the party and people is the source of our country's outstanding successes. The meeting's participants warmly and unanimously approved the party's wise domestic and foreign policy and the purposeful practical activity of the CPSU Central Committee, its Politburo and L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

G.V. Romanov, who was warmly greeted by those assembled, delivered a speech. It is a great honor, he said, to have the people's trust. Permit me to express deep appreciation and heartfelt gratitude to the workers engineers, technicians, scientists, specialists and employees of the collectives of enterprises and organizations who have nominated me as a candidate deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union. I interpret your kind words as an expression of boundless trust in our Leninist party and as a high assessment of the practical activity of the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo headed by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. I assure you, dear comrades, and through you, all the voters of the Moskovskiy Okrug, that I shall continue to devote all my energy to the party's cause and to the service of the Soviet people.

A little over 4 and ½ years separates us from the previous USSR Supreme Soviet elections, the candidate deputy went on to say. Not a long period in terms of time. But in terms of its richness in very important political events and in terms of the scale of creative activity and its practical results, this period will occupy a unique place in our country's annals. The 25th CPSU Congress became a portentous landmark. The Great October Socialist Revolution's 60th anniversary jubilee was celebrated on a wide scale. The discussion of the new Soviet Constitution--an outstanding document of the contemporary epoch--by all the people and its adoption were an event of historic importance.

Legislatively enshrining the fact that a developed socialist society has been built in the USSR and the fact that our state has been transformed into a state of the whole people, and also enshrining the fundamentals of the social system and of policy, and the rights, freedoms and duties of the citizens, our fundamental law has shown to the whole world that the people are the sole and sovereign masters of their country and that the main content of the USSR Constitution is the further development of socialist democracy. By unanimously approving the country's fundamental law, Soviet people again demonstrated their wholehearted devotion to Lenin's teaching, to the ideals of Great October and to the cause of the Communist Party--the leading and guiding force of Soviet society.

The present USSR Supreme Soviet election campaign is taking place in an atmosphere of great political and labor enthusiasm. Soviet people have named Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, a tireless continuer of Lenin's cause and an outstanding politician and statesman, as the candidate of the entire people.

The elaboration and implementation of the party's and the state's most important practical steps within the country and in the international arena and the entire purposeful activity of the CPSU Central Committee and of its Politburo, permeated by the indissoluble unit of theory and practice, are linked with the name of Leonid Ilich. Under Leonid Ilich's direct leadership, a businesslike, creative atmosphere has been created in the party and country, an atmosphere of high trust in the cadres and at the same time of exactingness, adherence to party principle, and of irreconcilability toward shortcomings.

Following Leninist traditions, the party is taking a solicitous attitude toward the accumulated experience of the struggle to create a new society and is constantly enriching this experience. The decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and of subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's works on topical questions of domestic and foreign policy are an example of this approach to experience and to traditions. In seeking to secure the unity of word and deed, the Communist Party is persistently putting into practice the scheduled course with revolutionary enterprise and businesslike efficiency.

The CPSU Central Committee's preelection address cites impressive results of work on implementing the decisions of the 24th and 25th CPSU Congress. The country's economic potential has increased on a vast scale. Over the last 3 years alone, about R370 billion of capital investment has been channeled into developing the national economy, and this sum exceeds the total capital invested in all the first six 5-year plans. The party's agrarian policy which is aimed at transforming agriculture into a highly developed and highly efficient sector of our economy is being successfully implemented. New heights have been scaled in the development of science and culture.

The developed socialist society, built by the efforts of many generations of Soviet people, is distinguished by the high maturity of social relationships. One of the party's program tasks has been and still is, the steady enhancement of the people's well-being. Soviet people can see with their own eyes that the social line of the 25th CPSU Congress is being implemented consistently and precisely. You are well informed, G.V. Romanov continued, about the purposeful work which the Communist Party is performing in the international arena. The main aim of this activity was, and still is, to eliminate the threat of a new world war, to achieve lasting peace and to develop fruitful cooperation among all countries, the sovereignty of each of them being strictly respected. These efforts have been crowned with great successes. But the opponents of detente are still active. The situation in the world remains difficult. Together with the fraternal socialist countries, the Soviet Union has, just recently, submitted a number of constructive proposals the realization of which would insure the further relaxation of international tension.

However, aggressive circles have responded to these proposals with a new spiral in the arms race, the build up of military power and the unrestrained growth of military spending. This can be seen through the example of the draft of the new U.S. budget submitted for the Congress' confirmation and which envisages the highest military spending in the entire history of the United States. This is also evidenced by the militaristic aspirations of the present Chinese leadership.

The time has come for the statesmen who bear responsibility for the life of their countries' peoples to comprehend thoroughly the real significance of the alternative facing mankind: Either the arms race is halted and reversed, or there will be brinkmanship with all the dangerous consequences. "There can," as Comrade L.I. Brezhnev recently observed in his message to the Disarmament Committee, "be only one choice here: The efforts aimed at achieving a decisive turning point in the struggle to end the arms race must be doubled, tripled, increased 10-fold." As for the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries, we shall continue to follow this course.

Everything of which we are justifiably proud--the increased economic and defensive might of the Soviet state, the growth of the people's well-being, and our country's high international prestige--all this, put together, is the living embodiment of the CPSU's general political line, a line approved by all the Soviet people.

The working people of Leningrad and Leningradskaya Oblast are approaching the USSR Supreme Soviet elections in a good frame of mind and with a feeling that they have discharged their duty. The people of Leningrad are persistently working to implement the 25th CPSU Congress decisions. The broad scale of socialist competition under the slogan "From the high work quality of each individual to the high labor efficiency of the collective!" and the purposeful organizational and political work have insured the overfulfillment of the targets of the first 3 years of the 5-year plan in terms of an increase in production volume and labor productivity growth. Output worth more than R570 million has been sold over and above the annual plans.

Over this period the rural workers have increased the average annual gross output of produce by 25 percent and have supplied the state with 73,000 tons of meat, 142,000 tons of milk and 406 million eggs in addition to the plan targets.

When speaking of today's deeds and concerns, we do not forget, the speaker continued, what we began with comparatively recently. The older and middle generations of Leningraders remember the grim times of the war. The burned-out cities and villages and the heaps of ruins left after the war caused malicious joy on the part of international imperialism which had counted on the Soviet Union's being set back many years. But once again--for the umpteenth time!--socialism's enemies had miscalculated. Thanks to the tremendous work of the Communist Party and Soviet people, the consequences of the war were eliminated in a short time and our motherland has achieved unprecedented economic and social progress.

This can also be seen from the example of Leningrad and its oblast where enterprises which determine technical progress in many leading sectors are developing at increasing preferential rates. Today the "Elektrosila" and "Leningradskiy Metallicheskiy Zavod" associations are producing 25 times as many turbines and generators as in the victory year of 1945. Machines with a capacity of only a few tens of thousands of kilowatts have been replaced with 500,000- and 800,000-kilowatt units with which virtually all the biggest new power industry projects are being equipped. A unique generator and turbine have been created for the Kostroma GRES rated at 1.2 million kilowatts.

Between these achievements and their origins there occurred an episode which Leonid Ilich Brezhnev recalls in his book "Rebirth." When, after the war, the Americans refused to supply turbines for the restoration of the Dnepro GRES, the order was assigned to the Leningraders and people of the Novo-Kramatorskiy plant. "And although they were given the most rigid deadlines," Leonid Ilich writes, "they produced more reliable and powerful machines than the American ones."

Between the present achievements and their origins came the world's first AES--the Obninskaya AES--the equipment for which, rated at only 5,000 kilowatts, was also produced in our city. Today, the V.I. Lenin AES, with a capacity of 2 million kilowatts, is in operation near Leningrad and its capacity will be 4 million kilowatts in 1980.

The Leningrad shipbuilders began with small dry-cargo ships, refrigerated ships and tankers in the postwar period. Today large tankers, fish factory ships, modern horizonal-loading ships, unique scientific research ships which carry out crucial tasks in the conquest of space leave the building slips of the Admiralteyskoye association, the Baltic shipyard and the A.A. Zhdanov shipyard, for the open seas. Thanks to the creation of the world's biggest nuclear-powered icebreakers Arktika, and Sibir, the North Sea route can be operated all the year round.

Output of the most important types of machinery, mechanisms, equipment and materials has increased dozens of times over. Among these are the 300-horsepower Kirovets tractors, unique astronomical telescopes, "machining center"-type machine tools, the pilot model of a new thermonuclear device, computer equipment, modern diesels and railroad passenger cars.

The structure of Leningrad's industry has altered radically and it is now based on large-scale associations and combines. Dozens of enterprises have been modernized and technically reequipped.

Agricultural production is developing confidently on an industrial footing. Dozens of large livestock-raising complexes and farmsteads, highly mechanized poultry factories and mixed-feed plants have been built and are in operation. Modern hothouse combines occupy more than 100 hectares. Land reclamation is being conducted on a large scale. Specialized associations and trusts have been set up for the production of all the main types of agricultural produce. In accordance with their counterplans, the rural workers will, in 1980, produce almost 1 million tons of milk, at least 200,000 tons of meat, 1.5 billion eggs and 530,000 tons of vegetables and potatoes which will be a good contribution to the uninterrupted supply of foodstuffs for the Leningraders.

The working people of Leningrad and its oblast are aware of the constant assistance of the party and state in solving social questions. The housing problem is being consistently tackled. In the current 5-year plan period alone, housing with a total floor area of more than 12 million square meters will have been built which is equivalent to more than half the total housing stock that the city had at its disposal in the year when it was liberated totally from the enemy blockade.

Much has been done to build children's preschool establishments and for strengthening and expanding the material base of public health, for the city's passenger transport, and for building cultural establishments. The scale of work on environmental protection has been increased.

At the end of last year the decision was made to protect Leningrad against floods. A technical project for antiflood work was approved. On behalf of all Leningraders, G.V. Romanov expressed cordial gratitude to the party Central Committee, to its Politburo and to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev for the graphic new manifestation of their constant concern for Lenin's city.

The speaker went on to stress that the vocational and technical education system has been radically reorganized. Since the last elections 48 new vocational and technical school complexes have been commissioned in the city and oblast. Since the beginning of the 5-year plan all vocational and technical schools which now give their pupils a secondary education in addition to their vocational skill have produced almost 185,000 skilled workers for various sectors of the national economy.

The chief result of the activity of the Leningrad party organization and of the working people of the city and oblast in implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress is that new great heights have been scaled in enhancing the efficiency of all sectors of the economy and in implementing social tasks. As in previous years of the 5-year plan period, the Leningraders' labor was rated highly in 1978 and on the basis of the results of this work, 56 enterprises and organizations, the Kalininskiy, Vsevolozhskiy, Podporozhskiy and Priozerskiy rayons, the city of Gatchina, Leningrad and the Leningradskaya Oblast were adjudged victors of the All-Union Socialist Competition and were awarded CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banners.

It is a pleasure for me, as your candidate deputy, to note that one of the city's biggest industrial districts--the Moskovskiy Rayon--is making a weighty contribution to the Leningraders' achievements, said G.V. Romanov. Very large associations, scientific-research institutes and planning and design organizations are concentrated there. [paragraph continues]

The collectives are devoting much attention to the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, and to the creation of highly productive equipment. In the period between the elections, considerable work has been carried out--both in accordance with the electors' instructions, and on the basis of the play--to further improve housing and everyday conditions of the population and also to enhance the standard of services provided for them.

The Communist Party, as was noted at the CPSU Central Committee July and November (1978) plenums, critically analyzes the results of social development and outlines ways of solving the problems which arise at one sector or another of the economy. The chief condition for continued progress and for on-going forward progress has been, and still remains, the unswerving enhancement of production efficiency and work quality in all elements of the national economy.

It is a question of the need to make better use of fixed productive capital. Devising specific measures which will promote considerable labor productivity growth must become a subject of special concern. Above all it is essential to make rapid use everywhere of scientific and technical achievements and, when drafting projects for modernizing enterprises, the introduction of progressive equipment and production methods must be provided for. Much will have to be done to strengthen the businesslike cooperation of workers and specialists. We must regard all these measures as the basis for reducing labor-intensive processes and for actually releasing workers.

At the same time, the candidate deputy observed, there are shortcomings in tackling economic and social tasks. They are frequently the consequence of the formal attitude taken by certain economic leaders toward their direct duties and sometimes the result of irresponsibility in fulfilling the decisions of the party and soviet organs. We still have among us workers who, upon any pretext, "fire off warnings" to higher authority instead of taking exhaustive steps on the spot and tackling any particular issue. Frequently several different decisions are made apropos of the same case, but the matter does not progress. Total clarity as to who is responsible for what does not always exist at each sector of economic management, and due exactingness is not always displayed toward those responsible for executing work. This leads to targets not being met and it engenders additional costs.

In this connection G.V. Romanov cited Vladimir Ilich Lenin's reply to a letter from a certain worker who complained about economic disorders: "...I carried the matter through to its conclusion, it would seem, almost 10 times," you write. But that is precisely the crux of the matter: Not once did you carry the matter through to its conclusion without this 'it would seem' ...you lost heart and did not struggle, you did not exhaust all the means of struggle."

It is the direct duty of the party and soviet organs to insure concrete leadership and a statesmanlike approach to any question and beneficial results in work. Last May at a session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, speaking of the further development of the local organs of power, via which the will of all the people is translated into life, stressed: "The saying has come into being in our times: 'Someone in a soviet is responsible for the people.'" It is essential to put this instruction into practice in every way.

The success of all our work depends on the activeness of each worker and of his creative attitude to the cause. These qualities are nurtured above all in the labor collectives. It is precisely there that such traits as initiative, high organization and discipline are manifested. But here too slackness, indiscipline and a consumerist attitude toward life are more noticeable.

It is essential to enhance the role of labor collectives, and to implement in practice the constitutional provisions concerning that fact that the conscientious fulfillment by all citizens of their duties to society, the labor collective, and to the family, is an indispensable condition for the realization of the rights and freedoms granted to Soviet people. Constant concern should be displayed about insuring that all citizens know their rights and freedoms and the ways and methods of implementing them, and to insure that they know how to use these rights and freedoms in the interests of building communism and clearly realize their inseparable link with the conscientious execution of their duties. Promoting this and helping to develop a high political standard in each citizen is the task of the party and public organizations which are responsible for the communist education of the working people.

Almost half a century ago, the collective of the "Krasnyy Vyborzhets" plant issued an appeal for the mounting of mass socialist competition. This was a fitting response by Leningrad workers to Vladimir Ilich Lenin's article "How Is Competition To Be Organized?" which was published for the first time in January 1979 in PRAVDA. The whole history of socialist competition, and equally of the communist subbotniks [unpaid "voluntary" Saturday work], whose 60th anniversary will be celebrated this year, attests vividly to the colossal energy of the people's masses engendered by our social system.

The achievements of advanced workers, teams and collectives which have decided to complete the 5-year targets by the 110th birth anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin are a new manifestation of this. The overall result of the creative questing of the Leningraders is the pledges adopted for the 4th year of the 5-year plan. The main thing now is to insure their fulfillment in each link and sector of economic and cultural building. This, as the party teaches, requires of the party, soviet and economic organs, of the public organizations and of each production collective greater persistence, doggedness and organization.

Together with all the Soviet people, the working people of Leningrad and its oblast, G.V. Romanov said in conclusion, are approaching the USSR Supreme Soviet elections, with a clear understanding of the set tasks. He assured the party Central Committee, its Politburo and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev to the Leningraders' determination to steadily augment their contribution to strengthening the Soviet Union's economic and defensive might and to the cause of further boosting the well-being of the people.

Having cordially thanked the voters for the high trust placed in him, the candidate deputy wished the working people of Moskovskiy Rayon happiness and prosperity, and new successes in fulfilling the targets of the 10th 5-Year Plan and in implementing the 25th CPSU Congress decisions.

Suslov Leningrad Speech

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[TASS report under rubric "Working People's Election Meetings": "Following the Leninist Course of Creative Work. Voters' Meeting With M.A. Suslov"]

[Text] The preparation for the USSR Supreme Soviet elections has been a vivid demonstration of Soviet people's monolithic cohesion around the beloved party and its Leninist Central Committee. Inspired by the CPSU Central Committee appeal to all USSR voters and citizens, Leningraders, like all Soviet people, have developed still more widely the socialist competition to fulfill ahead of schedule the plan targets and socialist pledges and are greeting the wonderful festival of Soviet democracy--election day--with new successes in implementing the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

In the Oktyabrskiy great concert hall on 28 February the voters of Leningrad city's Kirovskiy Electoral Okrug met Mikhail Andreyevich Suslov, the candidate for USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union deputy for that okrug, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The meeting Presidium included G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningradskiy Obkom, representatives of party and social organizations, notable production workers and scientific and cultural figures.

The meeting participants enthusiastically elected an honorary Presidium comprising the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

The meeting was opened by A.F. Dubov, first secretary of Kirovskiy Raykom.

USSR state prize winner I.V. Zakharov, leader of a team of assemblymen-fitters in the Kirovskiy Zavod production association--the candidate deputy's agent--told voters about M.A. Suslov's life and urged the okrug's voters to vote unanimously for the candidates of the inviolable bloc of communists and nonparty people.

Then speeches were made by V.P. Trunov, chief of the Baltic Sea shipping line, S.N. Khalkiopov, secretary of the A.A. Zhdanov shipyard party committee, Hero of Socialist Labor N.S. Popov, chief designer in the Kirovskiy Zavod production association, and M.A. Lapshina, student at the water transport institute.

The speakers stressed that the working people of the city and oblast wholeheartedly and unanimously approve the beloved Communist Party's wise foreign and domestic policy and express cordial gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, its Politburo and personally to Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, for their tireless concern for the good of the people, the growth of the beloved homeland's might and lasting peace on earth.

M.A. Suslov, who was warmly greeted by the meeting participants, delivered a speech. He cordially thanked the voters of Kirovskiy Okrug for nominating him as candidate USSR Supreme Soviet deputy and he assured them that he will make every effort to be a worthy representative of Leningrad's working people in the supreme organ of Soviet power and to struggle with still greater energy for the triumph of the great cause of Lenin's party and for the victory of communism.

The particular feature of the present elections, M.A. Suslov stressed, is that they are the first to be held under the new USSR Constitution--the constitution of the developed socialist society.

True democratism in a state is participation by the mass of the working people in all state affairs. V.I. Lenin saw it as a most important condition of the development of Soviet democratism that "absolutely EVERY MEMBER of the population learn to administer and begin to administer." Unswervingly implementing this Leninist policy line, the Communist Party seeks to insure that every Soviet citizen takes the most direct part in discussing and resolving the questions of social and state life. The serious successes achieved in this sphere have been reflected and enshrined in the new Soviet Constitution.

Socialism and democracy are indivisible. As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted in the CPSU Central Committee report to the 25th party congress, "we now know not just from theory but from many years of practice: Just as genuine democracy is impossible without socialism, so socialism is impossible without the constant development of democracy."

M.A. Suslov went on to dwell on the results of the fulfillment of the election program which the party brought to the previous USSR Supreme Soviet elections in summer 1974.

The Communist Party promised to struggle for further progress in social and national relations, the strengthening of the economic might of the socialist motherland and the upsurge of the people's prosperity. Almost 5 years have passed since then, and Soviet people can say with a sense of profound satisfaction that the party's election program has been fulfilled. The alliance of the working class, kolkhoz peasantry and people's intelligentsia which constitutes the social basis of the USSR has been consolidated still further. The process of the blossoming and rapprochement of the socialist nations is continuing, the social homogeneity of Soviet society is increasing and its moral and political unity is strengthening constantly.

The country has raised its economy to new heights and has successfully completed the 9th 5-Year Plan and the first 3 years of the 10th. In the elapsed period the development of the USSR national economy has been characterized primarily by high and stable growth rates: Industrial production increased 40 percent in 1974-1978 compared with the preceding 5-year period; average annual gross agricultural output totaled R121.4 billion--R12.7 billion higher than the average for the 1969-1973 5-year period.

Society's productive forces are increasing steadily. The country's production potential increased considerably over the 5-year period. As much fixed production capital was commissioned in 1974-1978 as existed at the beginning of 1968. Precisely 1,344 major industrial enterprises were commissioned.

At the same time the whole economy has been switched to intensive methods of management, and production has been reorganized on a new and qualitatively higher technical basis. The past 5-year period has been characterized by the acceleration of scientific and technical progress. In 1974-1978 almost 80 percent of the increase in industrial output was obtained by increasing labor productivity. This is the result of the persistent, planned reequipping of the national economy with the latest technology.

An important feature of the contemporary stage of the development of productive forces is the creation of an essentially new fuel and energy base in the east of the country. This is one of the most fundamental problems set by the entire course of the national economy's development.

On the basis of profound scientific foresight the party concluded back in the mid-sixties that in the immediate future the rapidly developing national economy could not be based only on the enemy resources of areas of the country which had already been opened up.

And so a resolute policy line was adopted of opening up intensively and on a large scale the raw material and in particular the fuel and energy resources of the eastern regions of the country, primarily Siberia and the Far East. The opening up of these regions required a definite redistribution of capital investments, considerable material and labor resources and the overcoming of tremendous difficulties. But life has totally confirmed the wisdom and farsightedness of the party's policy line: A firm fuel and energy base for the entire national economy has now been created east of the Urals through the Soviet people's selfless labor.

A particularly great step forward in opening up the wealth of the eastern regions has been taken in the last 5 years. The change in the face of previously undeveloped [maloosvoyennyy] regions is an embodiment of the labor of the entire multinational Soviet people and the result of the party's perspicacious leadership of the development of the country's economy and of its ability to see the future.

In constructing the Baykal-Amur Railway and new cities, mines and oilfields in the east today we are working not only for the present but also for the future and we are creating a firm foundation for the further growth of the country's entire national economy, the strengthening of its defense capability and the enhancement of the people's prosperity.

Relying on the successes of the socialist economy, the party is unswervingly implementing the outlined plans for raising Soviet people's material prosperity and cultural standards. The last 5 years' targets for the increase in the population's monetary income have been completely fulfilled. The increase in the minimum wage and also in the wage and salary rates of middle-income workers and employees in production sectors has been completed everywhere, and this process will be completed in the nonproduction sectors this year. Supplementary wage benefits have been established in certain sectors. Since the last elections the average monthly wage of workers and employees has increased 19 percent and in 1978 totaled R160 for the whole national economy.

Throughout this period payments and benefits from social consumption funds have continued to increase steadily: They increased 35 percent and in 1978 totaled R404 per capita per year. The social insurance of certain categories of invalids, workers and employees has improved substantially. Supplementary benefits have been granted to Great Patriotic War invalids and the families of dead servicemen. A number of other important measures to enhance the people's prosperity have also been implemented.

While increasing the monetary incomes of the population the party and government display tireless concern to increase the production of consumer goods and consumer services. This is evidenced, in particular, by the increase of almost 30 percent in the retail commodity turnover in state and cooperative trade over the 5 years. Some 22 percent more foodstuffs and 36 percent more goods other than food were sold. Over this period 54 million citizens of our country have received new apartments or have improved their housing conditions.

The introduction of universal secondary education for young people is of great social significance. Major successes have been achieved in the development of science and culture.

M.A. Suslov then noted a number of important changes in the living conditions of Leningrad's working people.

Considerable space in the speech was devoted to an analysis of the progress of the nationwide struggle to implement the 25th party congress decisions. The USSR Supreme Soviet elections are taking place at a period when the 10th 5-Year Plan is entering the decisive phase. Assessing the past 3 years of the 5-year plan, L.I. Brezhnev said at the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum: "These have been good years. Much has been successfully accomplished. Much has changed for the better." And indeed, over that period our country's national income increased 13 percent, gross industrial output increased 16 percent and gross agricultural output increased 15 percent. All sectors of the Soviet economy developed successfully.

M.A. Suslov stressed that the working people of Lenin's city made a great contribution to the overall success. Leningrad's industry, he said, has always played a great role in the country's economy and in the development of scientific and technical progress. [paragraph continues]

High-quality shipbuilding, power machinebuilding, machine-tool and instrument building production, powerful agricultural equipment and items manufactured by light industry enterprises and bearing the trademarks of Leningrad's plants and factories are well known in our country and far beyond its borders.

The working people of Leningrad and the city's party organization, loyal to their revolutionary and labor traditions, have always acted as pioneers of the new, the progressive. Socialist competition under the motto "from the high quality of the work of each individual to the high labor efficiency of the collective," the experience of labor collaboration in the Leningrad transport network and the initiative of 28 Leningrad enterprises and organizations participating in the creation of the Sayano-Shushenskaya GES and in the comprehensive solution of major national economic tasks were all born in Leningrad and have been approved by the CPSU Central Committee. The widespread dissemination of the initiative of "Elektrosila", which mounted competition under the motto "the state seal of quality for each new item", and of the experience of other Leningrad enterprises is of great significance for our economy.

However, those who have built developed socialism and who are today creating the material and technical base of communism would never have achieved success had they not taken a self-critical attitude toward their work, and if they had shut their eyes to shortcomings and difficulties.

The CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum pointed out those sectors of our economy which require particular concern on the part of party, soviet and economic organs, and the heightened attention of each working person. Certain types of resources and especially fuel and metal are still in short supply; the situation in capital construction is improving only slowly; there are difficulties in transport; the demand for certain foodstuffs and industrial consumer goods is not being fully satisfied. Instances of violations of plan, production and labor discipline, of mismanagement and irresponsibility and of a conciliatory attitude toward losses still persist.

Touching on problems of the developments of agriculture, M.A. Suslov noted a number of positive improvements in the countryside. Capital investment in this sector is constantly increasing. Over the first 3 years of the current 5-year-plan period almost R100 billion have been channeled into the development of agriculture; it has received more than 230 million tons of mineral fertilizers, more than 1 million tractors, 309,000 grain-harvesting combines and a considerable quantity of other equipment. The use of electric power in agricultural production has greatly increased. All this is substantially influencing the alteration of the nature of labor on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and is bringing nearer the solution of the problems of comprehensive mechanization in arable farming and lovestock raising.

As a result of the implementation of the party's agrarian policy great successes have been achieved in agriculture--the yields and the gross harvests of grain have increased. As is known, a record harvest was obtained last year.

Much has been done. But the party can also perceive shortcomings and unresolved problems. The livestock population and the output of livestock products--especially meat--are still increasing too slowly, and sunflower and flax production is also increasing too slowly. The fact that 2 of the last 5 years of drought, 1975 being particularly severe, has had a considerable effect on this.

The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at that plenum outline clear prospects and measures for the all-round development of our agriculture. It was especially emphasized that boosting agriculture is a matter for all the people, a matter of general concern.

One of the most important tasks is considered by the party to be that of boosting the agriculture of the RSFSR's Non-Chernozem Zone, and transforming it into a zone of highly productive arable farming and livestock raising. Major resources are now being allocated for the further development of the Non-Chernozem regions. In 1979 alone more than R8 billion will be channeled into this.

The intensive transformation of Russia's Non-Chernozem Zone must play an important role in providing the country's population with foodstuffs and especially meat and dairy produce.

The party now regards as agriculture's main and most urgent task the attainment of a tangible increase in the output of livestock products, especially meat, in addition to increasing grain production. Although over the last 5 years the average annual production of meat has increased by 1,735,000 tons compared with the preceding 5-year period, meat production is still lagging behind the growth in demand.

It is necessary above all to bear in mind that the structure of the population has altered considerably. At the start of the sixties the majority of the country's citizens lived in the countryside; since then there has been a considerable migration into the cities. And in 1978 there were 67 million more city dwellers than rural inhabitants. It is also necessary to take account of the fact that the overall increase in the monetary incomes of the entire population has considerably increased the demand for high-calorie foodstuffs, and above all meat products.

The party and government are taking the necessary steps to develop livestock raising and to increase the sale of produce. State money is being allocated for building large-scale livestock-raising complexes, creating a firm fodder base for livestock raising, building plants for the production of mixed feeds and livestock-raising mechanization equipment, and also for building enterprises for the processing and storage of livestock products. It is essential to take steps to reestablish livestock farmsteads on those kolkhozes where they were dismantled without due cause, and also to encourage in every way the raising of livestock on the rural inhabitants' private plots.

Increasing the livestock population and enhancing its productiveness is an important matter for the entire state. And there are many reserves here. For example, subsidiary farms attached to industrial enterprises and other organizations should be developed more actively for livestock raising.

Our country produces an enormous quantity of agricultural produce and will produce even more in the next few years. But all this produce must get to the consumer and must retain its quality. Unfortunately, there are many shortcomings here. Because of negligence and irresponsibility a large quantity of grain, vegetables, potatoes, fruit and other agricultural produce is lost in the fields, at storage facilities, at food-industry enterprises, in transit and even in the stores. These shortcomings cannot be regarded as insuperable. But a high level of responsibility, persistence and party-principledness are necessary to overcome them. It is essential to call strictly to account those guilty of an irresponsible attitude toward the safekeeping of public wealth.

M.A. Suslov went on to describe the contemporary international situation. Time, he said, has confirmed the effectiveness, realism and constructive nature of the foreign policy course of the 24th and 25th CPSU congresses and of the program of struggle for peace and international cooperation and for the freedom and independence of the peoples which they advanced. The Soviet Union's positions in the world have strengthened even more and our country's prestige has increased still further. The principle of peaceful coexistence among states belonging to opposed social systems is increasingly asserting itself in the development of international relations. Our party will continue to devote every effort to implementing the peace program wholly and fully.

In their international activity the CPSU and the Soviet Government, along with the fraternal parties and governments of the socialist community countries, unfailingly put forward constructive proposals aimed at strengthening peace, consolidating and developing the relaxation of international tension, ending the arms race and securing disarmament. This line is pursued in the struggle against imperialism's aggressive policy and against the plans of the enemies of peace and the peoples' freedom, who are doing their best to fuel the arms race they have unleashed. There is a dangerous buildup in arsenals of weapons, and means of mass destruction are continuing to be improved. Hostile political campaigns are being waged against the socialist countries, communist parties and other progressive democratic forces.

There is a growing danger to international detente and the fate of peace and the peoples' security in connection with the fact that China's present leaders have united with international reaction and the inspirers of militarism, war and counterrevolution in their struggle against the cause of peace, democracy, national liberation and socialism. They have unleashed military aggression against Socialist Vietnam.

The Soviet people express anger and indignation at this aggression. They voice their full solidarity with the fraternal Vietnamese people struggling heroically against brazen aggressors. The Soviet Government has resolutely demanded an end to aggression and the immediate withdrawal of Chinese troops from Vietnam's territory. It has also declared that the Soviet Union will fulfill the commitments assumed under the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Not only the socialist community peoples but also the world's progressive and peace-loving forces come out in support of Vietnam. The aggression of the Beijing militarists and hegemonists is doomed to failure.

The party and the Soviet Government are vigilantly following all the intrigues of the imperialists and their accomplices and are doing everything to thwart their plans aimed at undermining the positions of the forces of peace and socialism. The CPSU and the Soviet Government will continue to maintain the defense might of the country and its heroic armed forces at the proper level in order to reliably insure our socialist motherland's security.

The international positions of the forces of peace, national liberation and socialism have strengthened in recent years. The might of the community of fraternal socialist states has increased. The CPSU will continue to devote unremitting attention to further developing the socialist countries' political, economic and other cooperation and to strengthening their international cohesion in every possible way. This is the main direction of our work in the international arena. It is of vital significance both for maintaining world peace and for mankind's social progress.

The victory of Socialist Vietnam's people in their struggle against imperialism was a historic event. The people of Laos have joined the family of socialist states. The people of Kampuchea have thrown off the antisocialist, terrorist Pol Pot regime and have acquired true independence and freedom.

The past 5 years have been marked by the rapid growth of liberation forces opposed to imperialism: New states of a socialist orientation have emerged (Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Benin, Afghanistan), and the struggle of many peoples for national independence has risen to a new level; the intrigues of neocolonialism are drawing an increasingly decisive protest from the developing countries.

A powerful national liberation, anti-imperialist movement has developed in Iran. The Iranian people have overthrown the shah's corrupt regime supported by world imperialist reaction and have created a new government. [paragraph continues]

As is known, the Soviet Union has recognized Iran's Provisional Government and proclaimed its readiness to develop good-neighborly relations between the two countries on the basis of equality, respect for sovereignty and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

In capitalist states the working people's struggle for their vital interests, for the right to work, against growing unemployment and inflation and against the policy of state monopoly capitalism has assumed a more massive and militant nature. The ranks of many communist parties have grown and their influence on their countries' sociopolitical development has increased.

The Soviet people are rightly proud that the Soviet Union's Leninist peace-loving foreign policy has helpedto improve the international situation and to advance other peoples along the path of independence and social progress. Our party will continue to strengthen solidarity with all fighters against imperialism and reaction and to consistently uphold the Marxist-Leninist foundations of the world communist movement--the great international force of our age.

In conclusion M.A. Suslov pointed out that Soviet democracy is the democracy of creation. The working people are themselves creating the new society--socialism--and govern it themselves, as sovereign masters. The entire Soviet system insures the realization of socialist democracy, which has acquired a truly nationwide character and represents the highest form of democracy under modern conditions.

In the Leninist conception of socialist democracy the realization of broad freedoms and rights, equal for everyone, is inseparable from every citizen's fulfillment of his obligations, his duty to the motherland and his active participation in the affairs of society and the state.

The working people govern their state primarily through elected organs of power--the soviets of people's deputies. Millions of Soviet people work on them. But the working people also participate in government through mass organizations such as the trade unions, the Komsomol, labor collectives and many other voluntary unions and societies. And this entire system insures the realization of our socialist democracy.

The chief vector of socialist democracy, the nucleus of our society's entire political system and its leading and directing force is the Communist Party, which works in the name of the working people's good and happiness. All the years of socialist building, starting with the first day of the history of Soviet power, have elapsed under the sign of the strengthening unity of the Communist Party and the Soviet people. The party strictly fulfills the role defined for it by life itself as the leading and directing force of Soviet society. It has waged and is waging a consistent struggle for the good of the working people, to strengthen the Soviet socialist motherland's economic might and defense capability and for its comprehensive burgeoning.

The active participation of all citizens in the elections of people's deputies to the USSR Supreme Soviet and a unanimous vote for the candidates of the bloc of Communists and nonparty people will show once again that the people have complete confidence in the party and fully share and support its domestic and foreign policy. The party is proud of the people's trust and will do everything to continue to justify it in all its activity.

M.A. Suslov cordially thanked those present at the voters' meeting for their great trust and emphasized that he attributes it entirely to the Leninist party and its Central Committee headed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. M.A. Suslov wished the working people of Kirovskiy Electoral Okrug and all Leningrad great new successes in fulfilling the great Lenin's behests and in building the communist society.

While in Leningrad M.A. Suslov visited the "Kirovskiy Zavod" association, whose collective nominated him candidate deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet. There he inspected the enterprise's shops. Questions of further raising production efficiency and work quality were discussed during talks with the association's leaders and workers. The tractor builders told the candidate deputy about their successes in developing the socialist competition to realize the 10th 5-Year-Plan targets.

M.A. Suslov visited new construction sites in the city, familiarized himself with Leningrad's flood-protection project and visited the "Ritm" science-and-production association. He laid flowers at the monument to Leningrad's heroic defenders in Victory Square. Red carnations were also laid at the V.I. Lenin monument in Moskovskaya Square.

M.A. Suslov talked with the leadership of Leningrad's party organization. G.V. Romanov reported on measures aimed at unconditionally fulfilling the comprehensive economic and social development plan for Leningrad and oblast and spoke of the party organization's activities in fulfilling the 25th CPSU Congress decisions.

Gromyko in Minsk

LD020955 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 2 LD

[TASS report under rubric "Working People's Election Meetings": "For the Sake of the Motherland, for Peace on Earth: Voters' Meeting with A.A. Gromyko"--the following report, when combined with the Minsk Radio text of foreign policy section of speech published on 1 March DAILY REPORT, comprise (apparent text of speech]

[Text] A meeting took place on 26 February between voters of the Minsk City Second Electoral Okrug for elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and the candidate deputy for that okrug, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister.

In the presidium were P.M. Masherov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Byelorussian Communist Party Central Committee, other leaders of the republic, leading workers and innovators in industry and representatives of the public.

The meeting was opened by G.G. Bartoshevich, first secretary of the party gorkom.

With great enthusiasm an honorary Presidium was elected consisting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

The candidate deputy's agent, O.I. Semenkov, director of the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences Institute of Technical Cybernetics, described A.A. Gromyko's life and called on all voters to vote unanimously on election day for the representatives of the indestructible bloc of Communist Party members and nonparty people.

The meeting was addressed by: A.I. Khorolskiy, pattern-maker at the Minsk computer hardware production association; G.T. Koloshin, director of the V. I. Lenin production association; I.V. Ketsko, student at the Byelorussian Polytechnical Institute; B.A. Zelenkevich, chairman of the watch factory trade union committee; and others.

The speakers spoke of the nationwide approval and unanimous support for the wise domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and its Leninist Central Committee. They stressed the determination of the republic's working people to greet election day with new successes in implementing the 25th party congress decisions and fulfilling targets for 1979 and the 5-year plan as a whole.

A speech was delivered by A.A. Gromyko, who was greeted warmly by those present.

It is with tremendous satisfaction, he said, that I convey cordial greetings and best wishes to the working people of Minsk and Belorussia as a whole from L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The voters greeted these words with tumultuous applause.

A.A. Gromyko thanked the collectives of Minsk working people who nominated him as candidate deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet. All thathas been said here concerning me, he noted, must be fully attributed to our Communist Party and its Leninist domestic and foreign policy, which deservedly enjoys nationwide approval and support. I assure you that I will spare no effort to justify your high trust.

The speaker noted the collossal scope of the work done by the party and people since the last elections.

The period since then has been full of events of outstanding significance. These include the 25th CPSU Congress, which put forward the next tasks in communist building and adopted the program for further struggle for peace and international cooperation. They include the new USSR Constitution, which came into force. They include the 60th anniversary of Great October.

In the course of fulfilling the 24th and 25th CPSU Congress decisions noteworthy successes have been achieved in developing production forces.

While taking pride in what has been achieved, we nonetheless remain fully self-critical in assessing it as regards omissions and shortcomings. Of course, we have unresolved problems. But "we are aware of them," L.I. Brezhnev noted, "we are constantly working on resolving them and we certainly will resolve them."

"Everything in the name of man, for the sake of man!"--that is the party's daily and greatest concern. It is in the fuller satisfaction of the people's growing material and cultural requirements that the CPSU sees the highest goal of socialist production.

The Soviet economy's successes have a beneficial effect on our working people's living standards. We Soviet people are accustomed to free medical care, free education and the world's lowest payment for accommodation, which has remained unchanged for more than 50 years. Yet these and other benefits which we enjoy are inaccessible to the broad masses in capitalist states--even in those which pride themselves on their wealth.

In a word, the steady improvement in the Soviet working people's prosperity is a reality of our life.

The party's attention, A.A. Gromyko went on, is invariably focused on questions of our society's sociopolitical development.

The soviets' activity is reflecting the democratism of our system more and more fully. This can be seen, in particular, from the fact that 30 million activists take part in their work in addition to the deputies.

"To the interpretation of the concepts of democracy and human rights, distorted and debased by bourgeois and revisionist propaganda," L.I. Brezhnev noted, "we counterpose the fullest, most real set of rights and duties for the citizen of a socialist society. We place on the balance of history the working people's truly epochmaking gains, achieved thanks to the power of the working class under the Communist Party's leadership."

Every day brings new confirmations of the advantages of socialist democracy over bourgeois democracy, which was and is democracy for the rich and deception for the poor. Chronic unemployment, crisis phenomena in the economy, social and political oppression, indifference to the working people's destinies, profound degradation of public morality, unrestrained growth of crime, the persecution of democrats and the dominance of militarist circles which whip up the arms race--such is actual reality in the world where capital reigns.

In certain Western capitalist countries there are politicians who don the attire of defenders of human rights and then start trying to teach others. However, this falsehood cannot conceal the truth: Capitalism is a society which flagrantly and inhumanly suppresses human rights, and therefore a society without a future. Socialism, on the other hand, has raised aloft the banner of genuine democracy, freedom and progress.

Since the last elections new successes have been achieved in implementing the party's Leninist nationalities policy. The great and indestructible friendship of fraternal peoples, our united, mighty Soviet Union, has become still stronger.

The courageous and industrious Belorussian people are marching confidently in the close formation of Soviet peoples. Suffice it to say that the republic's industrial production has increased more than 200-fold in six decades. Or this fact, for instance: It takes the Minsk tractor plant alone only 12 months to produce 100,000 tractors. Just think that V.I. Lenin dreamed of such a quantity of tractors for the whole country when he spoke at the eighth party congress. At that time it seemed like castles in the air to many people.

A.A. Gromyko conveyed the most cordial congratulations to Belorussia as a whole, and also to Brestskaya and Grodenskaya oblasts, the cities of Minsk, Gomel and Vietbsk, and the many Belorussian rayons, industrial enterprises, kolkhozes and sovkhozes which were winners in the all-union socialist competition to improve production efficiency and work quality and successfully fulfill the plan for 1978.

A worthy contribution is made to the republic's general successes, the speaker went on, by its capital--Minsk, which is today one of the country's biggest industrial, scientific and cultural centers.

As always, the communists march ahead in the people's work and deeds. The CPSU Central Committee naturally highly evaluates the activity of the Belorussian party organization in implementing party policy.

An object of our special pride, the candidate deputy went on, that the world's first society of developed socialism has been built in our country. This victory is the result of the people's titanic efforts. It incorporates the intellect and effort, courage and selflessness, knowledge and experience of all generations of Soviet people.

The CPSU Central Committee address on the forthcoming USSR Supreme Soviet election is permeated with Leninist faith in the masses' potential. [paragraph continues]

There is no doubt that, responding to the appeals it contains, Soviet people will again use their votes to demonstrate loyalty to the cause of October--the party's cause--and determination to implement the 25th Congress decisions. [Here begins foreign policy section of speech, the text of which published in the 1 March DAILY REPORT, page R1.]

A.A. Gromyko said in conclusion: Soviet people's historic destinies and all their achievements and victories in the six decades since Great October are inextricably linked with the Communist Party's tireless revolutionary transforming activity. Its selfless service to the people in the years of peaceful labor and the stern tests of war has proved clearly that the CPSU has no interests except the people's interests, no higher aim than the working people's good.

That is why the people's respect and love for the party and its Leninist Central Committee and Politburo are boundless. They also have boundless respect and love for that outstanding leader of our party and state, the person whose name arouses the admiration of all Soviet people--Communist Party members and nonparty people--and millions and millions of people abroad: L.I. Brezhnev. A staunch Leninist, an unrelenting fighter for peace, a man of lofty principles and unbending will--that is how people in our country and abroad know him.

We have every reason to say that the leading and guilding role of the Soviet Communist Party is continuing to grow steadily. We are firmly confident that our successes will shine brighter every year, in all their magnitude and all their brilliance. The CPSU is confidently leading the people toward these successes. That is why the party's prestige is so high and unshakable. That is why our working people are so unanimous in their support for its domestic and foreign policy.

The forthcoming elections, which the party is approaching in a close bloc with nonparty people, will further strengthen its ties with the people and consolidate the monolithic cohesion of Soviet society.

A.A. Gromyko had a talk with Belorussian leading workers.

P.M. Masherov briefed him on the work of the republic's working people in implementing the historic 25th CPSU Congress decisions and the 10th 5-Year Plan and on their unanimous support and complete approval of the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

A.A. Gromyko dwelt on key questions of the party and state's foreign policy activity at the present stage. He conveyed to the Belorussian CP Central Committee, the party aktive and all the republic's working people greetings and best wishes from L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, as well as their high assessment of the republic's labor achievements.

Kirilenko in Sverdlovsk

LD021245 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Feb 79 p 2 LD

[TASS report under rubic "Working People's Election Meetings": "The Banner of Communism Is the Banner of Creation and Peace: Voters' Meeting With A.P. Kirilenko"]

[Text] The people of the Urals--creators of powerful machines, metallurgists, chemists, construction workers--are approaching the USSR Supreme Soviet elections with high labor achievements.

On 27 February, under the sign of the monolithic unity of the party and the people, the voters of Chkalovskiy Electoral Okrug in the city of Sverdlovsk had a meeting with Andrey Pavlovich Kirilenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and candidate deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union for that okrug. It was held in the Palace of Youth.

The meeting was opened by V.N. Zotov, first secretary of Sverdlovsk's Chkalovskiy Raykom.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev was enthusiastically elected honorary Presidium.

The candidate deputy's agent--V.M. Makarov, general director of the Uralkhimmash production association--spoke about A.P. Kirilenko's life and activity and urged the voters to vote unanimously on election day for candidates of the monolithic bloc of communists and nonparty people.

The meeting was addressed by V.A. Kalinin, charging machine operator at the Verkh-Isetskiy metallurgical plant; A.V. Rybin, first secretary of Sverdlovsk's Verkh-Isetskiy Raykom; R.A. Malysheva, director of the Sverdlovsk Scientific Research Institute of Mother and Child Protection; V.M. Manyukhin, first secretary of Sverdlovsk Gorkom; V.P. Vashko, braiding machine operator at the Sverdlovsk industrial rubber products plant and winner of the Lenin Komsomol prize, and V.I. Zadorzhnyy, chairman of Sverdlovsk's Chkalovskiy Rayispolkom.

They said that in response to the CPSU Central Committee appeal to all voters and citizens of the USSR the people of the Urals have outlined high targets and are honorably keeping their word--to fulfill the target for the 4th year and the 5-year plan as a whole ahead of schedule. All enterprises in Sverdlovsk and oblast have widely launched an effective socialist competition whose participants have scored significant new achievements in the struggle to raise work efficiency and quality, to utilize internal reserves and to save raw materials, supplies, fuel and energy. Constantly feeling the concern of the party and the Soviet state, the people of Sverdlovsk will spare no effort, energy or knowledge in the struggle to implement the 25th CPSU Congress decisions and the imposing plans for communist building.

Warmly greeted by the voters, A.P. Kirilenko delivered a speech at the meeting. The present election campaign--the first since the USSR Constitution was adopted--is a graphic example, he said, of the further flowering of socialist democracy and the working people's growing sociopolitical activeness. At election meetings and in the press Soviet citizens, realizing their inalienable rights in running the affairs of society and the state, are discussing urgent problems of all-union and local significance in a businesslike manner and enriching the practice of state building with their collective experience.

At our meeting, as at election meetings everywhere, the working people express their most sincere feelings, their respect, love and gratitude toward the Leninist party, its Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and nationwide candidate deputy, personally. Possessing the high qualities of a leader of the Leninist type and brilliant political and organizational talent, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev is making a tremendous contribution to formulating and implementing the domestic and foreign policy of our party and the Soviet state, thanks to which great successes have been achieved in communist building and in strengthening the Soviet Union's international positions and authority. All progressive mankind sees Comrade L.I. Brezhnev as an outstanding figure in the international communist and workers movement and as an ardent fighter for peace throughout the world!

The Soviet people are profoundly satisfied that the country is approaching the elections to the supreme organ of state power under the sign of unshakable, close cohesion around their own party, which has proved by its entire activity its fidelity to the working people's interests. The broadening of the Soviet citizens' rights and freedoms in the present USSR Constitution and its enshrinement of the Communist Party's leading role deepen the unity of our society's creative forces--the people and their Marxist-Leninist vanguard. The monolithic unity of the party and the people was, is and will be the decisive factor in our motherland's might and invincibility.

I am fully aware that my nomination as candidate for the bloc of communists and non-party people and the warm words addressed to me here express confidence in your own Leninist party and approval and support for its wise policy, A.P. Kirilenko declared. He expressed profound gratitude to the labor collectives which have done him such a high honor and assured the voters that he will do everything to be worthy of the lofty title of people's deputy and will continue to devote his energy to implementing the party's policy.

A big new step has been taken in our society's development toward communism during the 5 years separating us from the last USSR Supreme Soviet elections, the speaker continued. This is the chief political result manifesting itself beneficially in all spheres of the country's life. Socialist social relations have become still more mature, the alliance of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and the people's intelligentsia is still more monolithic and the fraternal friendship of all the USSR's nations and nationalities is stronger. The Soviet people's spiritual life is now still more multifaceted, meaningful and rich.

If you think back over the panorama of communist creation, you are impressed above all by the unprecedented scope of economic building and by the broadened and improved material and technical base of developed socialism. Suffice it to say that over these 5 years the national economy's fixed production capital has increased by R323 billion. We can see how significant this increase is from the fact that quite recently, at the beginning of 1965, the country's entire fixed production capital came to that amount. The highest absolute increase in industrial production and in assimilating capital investments have been achieved in the period between the elections.

Particularly great attention is now being devoted to developing the eastern regions' economy and opening up their rich natural resources. This is yielding increasingly tangible results. The eastern regions now provide the entire increase in all-union oil and coal production, almost the entire increase in gas production and a considerable proportion of iron ore and electricity. The significance of Siberia and the Far East in the national economy will increase greatly when construction of the Baykal-Amur main railroad is complete.

It is exceptionally important that economic growth, as envisaged in the 25th party congress decisions, is achieved chiefly through increasing labor productivity and raising social production efficiency.

Thanks to the implementation of the modern agrarian policy formulated by the CPSU Central Committee March (1965) Plenum and developed by subsequent party congresses and Central Committee plenums, much has been done to turn agriculture into a highly developed sector of our economy. In the past 5 years alone almost R160 billion of capital investments have been funneled into agriculture, including R28 billion to fulfill the Non-Chernozem Zone's transformation program.

Backed by a stronger material and technical base, agricultural workers have achieved real successes. Despite a number of difficult years due to weather conditions, the average annual volume of agricultural output has increased substantially. Last year we gathered the biggest grain harvest in the history of Russian agriculture.

What I have said does not mean that we have resolved all problems in the way we would like. This applies particularly to livestock raising. In order to raise the development of livestock raising to a level that meets the country's increased requirements our entire people will have to exert still more effort and energy. It is necessary to make more efficient use of the existing potential on kolkhozes and sovkhozes to produce livestock products and sell them to the state. In addition, it is important to increase meat and milk production in private subsidiary plots and plots attached to the homes of kolkhoz members, workers and employees, as well as in the subsidiary plots being created under plants, factories, organizations and establishments.

The party regards the advancement of agriculture as the urgent concern of the whole people, to which industrial, scientific and technical workers must also make an increasingly significant contribution. No work, effort and energy must be spared to fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum, which set as the chief task in agriculture that of the comprehensive, dynamic development of all its sectors, the considerable growth of their efficiency and the country's reliable provision with food and agricultural raw materials.

Everything possible is done in our society to satisfy more fully working people's material and spiritual needs and to insure that the conditions for the blossoming of the individual and the display of talents and gifts become more favorable. The CPSU Central Committee appeal to voters shows what major socioeconomic measures have been implemented in the last few years, the way in which working people's wages and real income have increased and how much the social consumption funds have increased. The facts and figures cited in that document cogently attest that progress in everything that makes up the people's living standards is being insured in our country.

As for the mastery of knowledge and culture, participation in technical and artistic creative work and the pursuit of physical culture and sport, Soviet people have the broadest opportunities for this--given, as the saying goes, the desire to enrich their minds, develop their capabilities and to grow spiritually.

Everyone knows the importance of housing conditions, and we have done much to improve them. Many millions of families are now living in new apartments with modern amenities. Housing construction will be continued on a large scale in our country and therefore Soviet people's housing conditions will improve.

The CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum posed with great acuteness the task of further improving the work of the Group "B" sectors of industry and of all the enterprises producing consumer goods. Any display of unconcern regarding fulfillment of the targets for the production of these goods--and the necessary range of high-quality goods--is absolutely impermissible. The party believes that party and soviet organizations and our cadres must display great exactingness and responsibility in everything relating to the improvement of people's living conditions.

We now have many industrial cities and regions, the speaker continued; however, the importance of the middle Urals as an industrial powerhouse and a most important center of scientific and technical progress is not only not decreasing but, on the contrary, increasing.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, takes a constant interest in the life and work of the people of the Urals, remembers when he used to work in Sverdlovskaya Oblast and notes with satisfaction that the working class, engineering and technical intelligentsia and all the working people of Sverdlovsk and oblast always respond with deeds to the party's calls and decisions and struggle actively to implement its policy.

Leonid Ilich conveys to you, dear people of the Urals, his cordial greetings and warm wishes for good health and great human happiness. The meeting participants greeted this message with tumultuous applause.

Touching on the work of Uralkhimmash, the Verkh-Isetskiy metallurgical plant, the industrial rubber goods plant, the worsted combine, Uralmash and others, the candidate deputy noted that Sverdlovsk's labor collectives have achieved great successes in economic and social development in the 10th 5-Year Plan.

You have developed a mass movement to raise labor productivity, the speaker noted. It is wonderful that in Uralkhimmash, for instance, more than 2,000 workers are systematically over-fulfilling the production targets. Hundreds of the city's workers have already coped with the targets for the first 4 years of the 5-year plan and are now working toward the plan for 1980--the concluding year of the 5-year plan.

Many regions of the country are making increasingly wide use of the experience of Sverdlovsk's workers in stepping up production by modernizing existing enterprises and have supported the initiative by Sverdlovsk's construction workers to fulfill the 5-year plan targets with a smaller complement of workers. These initiatives have been supported by the party Central Committee--something which provides a mobilizing incentive for further enterprising work. Importance is also attached to the fact that you do not confine yourselves to your own initiatives but support the initiatives which emerge in other oblasts and republics. For instance, you have adopted the experience of the workers of Rostovskaya Oblast regarding work without laggards.

The twice Order of Lenin Sverdlovskaya Oblast has been awarded a Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and All-Union Komsomol Central Committee for achieving the highest results in the all-union socialist competition to raise production efficiency and work quality and to fulfill successfully the 1978 economic and social development plan.

It is wonderful that many young people have joined the ranks of leading workers and production innovators whose names are widely known. This attests that the Urals' working class are rearing their young replacements with fatherly concern.

The services to the country of Soviet women, mothers and selfless working women are great. The feat of the mother who gives life to man is great and honorable: As is well known, this year has been proclaimed International Year of the Child. If it is year of the child then that means it is also year of the mother. Let children have all that is best! That noble motto of our society is implemented daily.

The elections to the supreme organ of state power are not only a summing up of the results of the path which has been traveled but also a concentration of attention and efforts on what remains to be done. However great our achievements, self-satisfaction and complacency are alien to communists and Soviet people. [paragraph continues]

The party regards each rung of social and economic progress reached as a springboard for conquering new heights in communist building. The great Lenin taught this creative approach to everything that has been done and achieved--and the party invariably follows his behests.

The main thing now, the party points out, is to fully implement the tremendous potential and advantages of our developed socialist society and for the cause to make the most rational use of everything the country possesses. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum direct us to do this. It is necessary energetically to overcome bottlenecks and shortcomings in economic building and to achieve still greater practical results in raising production efficiency and work quality. In this connection I would like to stress the importance of the fact that the socialist pledges adopted by working people for 1979 emphasize mainly the achievement of qualitative production indicators and production intensification.

The demands made of all our cadres are higher still at the present stage of the struggle to implement successfully the 25th CPSU Congress decisions. A creative atmosphere has formed in our party and in the country under the direct leadership of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev. Party and state cadres are called upon to work with still greater initiative, to watch over state interests still more strictly, to seek to eliminate the existing shortcomings and to steadily improve work.

The increase of social production efficiency and labor productivity growth are determined to a tremendous extent by the broad introduction of scientific and technical achievements in every sphere of economic activity. The CPSU Central Committee deem it necessary to intensify the work of scientific, design and pla ing organizations and production collectives to create fundamentally new types of machines, instruments and equipment which embody the latest achievements of scientific and technical thinking. At the same time it is important to accelerate the impetus of the mass production of inventions and new technological processes and methods such as, for instance, powder metallurgy, the plasma processing of metal, laser technology, industrial manipulators, and pipeline, pneumatic container and other progressive types of transportation.

Increased production of means of mechanizing labor processes is of great importance in both the ecnomic and the social planes. The replacement of manual labor by machine labor will make it possible to release hundreds of thousands and, in the long term, millions of working people to man newly commissioned enterprises. New equipment and production mechanization and automation are the main source of raising labor productivity--and in the near future labor productivity growth must account for the entire increase in industrial output and in the volume of construction and installation work.

Fuller use must also be made of such major reserves for accelerating our economic growth as commissioning on time and improving the utilization of production capacities, eliminating losses of worktime and making thrifty use of electricity, fuel, raw and other materials.

It is scarcely necessary to prove the extent to which the efficiency of the national economy depends on capital construction. There were definite positive shifts in this sphere in the country as a whole in 1978. However, the questions of improving construction work still remain acute. The CPSU Central Committee conference held at the end of January recommended that the leaders of construction ministries and departments along with local party and economic organs concentrate the necessary resources on the most important projects scheduled for commissioning in 1979 and that they organize construction and installation work in strict accordance with the approved timetables.

And turning now to yet another problem on whose solution depends the harmonious nature of the cooperation among the sectors of the national economy--namely, improvement of the work of transport, and above all railroad transport. There are opportunities for this improvement on every farm and in each city and oblast. Work on accelerating the turn-around of freightcars and reducing unnecessary long hauls and cross hauls ought to be continued more persistently, and greater pains should be taken over routing these hauls.

As we can see, much still remains to be done for us to make more efficient use of all our vast opportunities. Each working person--worker, kolkhoz member, engineer, scientist or economic leader--is called upon to implement practically, concretely and on a daily basis the party's course toward enhancing social production efficiency, and to secure the fulfillment of the plans and the improvement of economic work. It is exceptionally important that precisely everyone perform his work conscientiously, to a high standard and with an awareness of his personal responsibility for his labor as a part of the general nationwide cause. The activity of our party and of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev is an inspiring example of boundless devotion to the ideals of communism and of selflessness in serving the motherland. And it is logical that Leonid Ilich's memoirs "Malaya Zemlya", "Rebirth" and "The Virgin Lands" generated such a warm response in the party and among the people. These books carry a charge of tremendous ideological force and are of inestimable educational significance. A profound mastery of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's works actively promotes the solution of the practical tasks of building communism and helps us to live and struggle in Leninist fashion.

By successfully building communism our party and the Soviet people are honorably fulfilling their chief internationalist duty. The moral-political authority of real socialism which has insured the genuine sovereignty of the people, social justice and broad rights and freedoms for citizens is inspiring the peoples to struggle for freedom and social progress.

By its Leninist foreign policy the Soviet Union is exerting a tremendous influence on the course of world development. As a result of the purposeful international activity of our party and of the Soviet state the security of our motherland has strengthened even further in recent years.

In the international arena we act together with the fraternal socialist countries. The socialist community has been transformed into the most dynamic socioeconomic force of the day and is a powerful factor of the consolidation and development of everything advanced and progressive, which constitutes the main content of the contemporary epoch.

After the victory of the heroic Vietnamese people over the imperialist aggressor, the united Socialist Republic of Vietnam was formed. The people of Laos, and quite recently--following the overthrow of the dictatorial pro-Beijing regime--the people of Kampuchea, too, have embarked on building a new life. Anti-imperialist revolutions have triumphed in Ethiopia, Angola, Mozambique and Afghanistan. The people's masses in Iran have risen to the struggle for their own rights and against reaction and imperialist interference. In southern Africa the peoples are assailing the racist regimes. The working people's class battles in the capitalist countries are on the increase.

Thanks to the constructive foreign policy being pursued by the USSR and the other socialist countries and thanks to their persistent and consistent efforts, a shift away from international tension toward detente has been successfully secured and detente has been substantially consolidated, especially on the European Continent.

Of course, the path toward deepening detente is strewn with serious obstructions and obstacles. The aggressive policy of reactionary imperialist circles, of which the Chinese rulers are acting as zealous accomplices, poses a threat to international security.

Only those who do not want to look truth in the eye can now ignore the incontrovertible fact that Mao's heirs, proclaiming that war is inevitable, stop at nothing and are prepared to embark on armed adventures which threaten world peace for the sake of implementing their expansionist, hegemonistic objectives.

Imperialist forces, and above all aggressively-minded circles of the North Atlantic Pact, are trying to use this course of Beijing's for their own anti-Soviet, antisocialist purposes. But, as has already been noted repeatedly, the fact that certain capitalist states are promoting the militarization of China, and the connivance with China's expansionist adventures constitute a shortsighted policy. In time it could rebound against these very states, and this is something, in particular, which is being realized on an increasingly broad scale now by realistic politicians of the West and in Japan.

The Chinese military's treacherous attack on Socialist Vietnam has shown once again the criminal ease with which the Chinese leadership resorts to arms.

Our people unanimously support the Soviet Government's statement expressing the resolute demand that this brazen aggression be halted and that Chinese troops be withdrawn immediately from Vietnamese territory. All progressive mankind stigmatizes the highhanded Beijing rulers and declares its solidarity with the Vietnamese people. Throughout the world the angry voice of the peoples is resounding imperiously: "Hands off Socialist Vietnam!"

The heroic Vietnamese people, who have reliable friends, are giving a fitting rebuff to the Chinese militarists and are selflessly defending the freedom and independence of their socialist motherland. The Vietnamese people's just cause will triumph!

Our party and the fraternal parties of the socialist community countries are naturally drawing the appropriate conclusions from the dangerous actions of the forces of imperialism and of the Chinese militarists in the international arena. While struggling persistently to deepen the relaxation of international tension, to end the arms race, for disarmament and to prevent a new world war, the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies deem it essential to maintain their defense capability at the necessary level and to preserve high political vigilance.

Implementing consistently the foreign policy course drawn up by the 25th CPSU Congress, the Soviet Union has announced a package of constructive proposals whose realization would insure the improvement of international relations, the strengthening of peace, the ending of the arms race, disarmament and the assertion of the principle of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems. Our proposals on eliminating the threat of war and switching military expenditure to creative needs are supported by all peace-loving forces and they are strengthening mankind's hope for and faith in a better and peaceful future.

The CPSU is firmly convinced that world war can and must be averted, and it is using the might of the Soviet Union and its influence and authority to implement this real opportunity which has been revealed for the first time in history.

The banner of communism is the banner of creation and peace! Under this banner we will secure new victories!

There is no doubt that the forthcoming USSR Supreme Soviet elections will develop into a new vivid demonstration of the triumph of the great ideas of building communism and of the unity of the party and of all the people.

A.P. Kirilenko visited the Verkh-Isetskiy metallurgical plant, Uralkhimash, Uralmash, the Sverdlovsk worsted combine and a number of other enterprises and new housing complexes and districts, P.O. Bazhov's house which is now a museum, cultural and consumer establishments and the Sverdlovsk higher military-political tank and artillery school.

In conversations with oblast leaders and with workers and specialists questions of further enhancing the efficiency and quality of work, and the progress of the socialist competition to fulfill the 1979 plan and the 10th 5-Year Plan as a whole were examined.

A.P. Kirilenko familiarized himself with the working and living conditions of the people of Sverdlovsk, and inquired about increasing the output and enhancing the quality of consumer goods and about fulfilling the programs for the collectives' economic and social development.

Additions to Ustinov Speech

In the Supreme Soviet election speech by Politburo member Ustinov, published in the 1 March Supplement 003 to the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 5, Moscow IZVESTIYA and KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian in their 24 February editions contain the following additional passages:

Page six, paragraph one, last line, make read "...plant party organization.

"By voting for candidates of the inviolable bloc of communists and nonparty people, they said, Soviet people will be voting for the Leninist policy of their own Communist Party. The speakers noted that the CPSU's foreign policy course is aimed at relaxation of international tension and the consistent fulfillment of the peace program. However, as long as forces of aggression exist, the speakers stressed, our party will do all it can to insure that the glorious Soviet Armed Forces continue to have all they need to fulfill their responsible tasks of being the reliable guard of the Soviet people's peaceful labor and the bulwak of universal peace on earth.

page seven, paragraph one, last line, make read "...been completely fulfilled. Remarkable successes have been achieved in all spheres of communist building. The country's productive forces have been raised to a qualitatively new level of development. Fixed production capital has increased substantially."

Page eight, paragraph one, last line, made read "...10th 5-Year Plan.

"The Soviet person, wherever he lives in our boundless motherland, thinks with emotion and love about our country's capital. To every Soviet patriot Moscow is the striking symbol of everything infinitely close and dear to his heart. In Moscow, to use the words of the poet, 'every stone knows Lenin.' The sacred relics of the revolution and the homeland's labor and combat glory are lovingly kept in Moscow, the course of life is determined there and the pulse of the life and activity of the entire country and the entire Soviet people emanates from there. To millions of people throughout the world Moscow enbodies the tremendous vital force, courage and selflessness, warmth and hospitality of our people and the achievements of the new system, the Soviet way of life."

Page nine, last paragraph, last line, make read "...China's reactionary rulers. This most important political document expresses the thoughts and the feelings of all Soviet people and of everyone to whom peace on earth is dear, and it serves as a serious warning to the Chinese aggressors."

Page 10, paragraph six, last line, make read "...army and navy. It could not be otherwise. In fact,to Soviet people there is nothing dearer than the happiness and security of the homeland."

Additions to Solomentsev Speech

In the Supreme Soviet election speech by candidate member of the Politburo Solomentsev published in the 27 February Supplement 002 to the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 9, Moscow IZVESTIYA in its 14 February morning edition contains the following additions to the speech:

Page 11, paragraph two, last line, make read "...the country's enterprises.

"All this is bearing fruit. Last year alone oil extraction in West Siberia increased by almost 36 million tons and gas extraction by 25 million cubic meters.

"The new regions are not just new deposits of natural resources. They are also a great field of life which tempers people--production workers, specialists and organizers. They learn here the ways of solving tasks in a communist manner, on a wide and large scale, and they develop strength of character and application and a strong sense of comradeship and mutual aid and international friendship."

Page 12, paragraph one, last line, make read "...in your oblast, or 1.5 million tons more than in the same period of the Ninth 5-Year Plan. Last year alone the country received over 800,000 tons of above-plan grain.

"On behalf of the RSFSR Government, permit me cordially to congratulate the grain growers, agricultural workers, urban workers, students and troops of the Soviet Army for their tremendous selfless labor. Great credit is due to soviet and agricultural organs, farm specialists and leaders and scientific figures. Party organizations were the inspiration for all this work. Communists were to be found wherever the fate of the harvest was being decided."

Page 13, paragraph five, last line, made read "...Supreme Soviet elections and the significant role of literary and artistic figures in the communist education of working people."